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ROSEBURG PLAINDEALER
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W. C. CONNER, Editor

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 1905.

PLAINDEALER CHANGES HANDS

With this issue and upon this day, the Plaindealer Publishing Company, a corporation, is dissolved, the plant and business having been sold to W. E. Willis, a practical newspaper man of Los Angeles, California. A little more than a year ago the Plaindealer Publishing Company was incorporated by a few enterprising local citizens simply to save the plant and business from the inevitable results and outcome of the bad management which had characterized its brief, but stormy career for a year up to that time.

The stockholders in the Plaindealer company, not desiring to engage in the printing and publishing enterprise any longer than would be required to make some satisfactory disposition of the paper and plant, the services of the late management was secured until such time as a good, competent man with ample means to purchase the plant and business could be found. More than a year has passed while various negotiations for the paper have been in progress, all of which have been turned down until Mr. Willis recently came forward with a satisfactory one, as well as with the very best of references and endorsements, establishing beyond a doubt the fact that the paper and business would be safe in his hands. His years of newspaper experience having been crowned with success.

During the time the paper has been controlled by a stock company and under the editorial management of the undersigned, the stockholders have been content to have the net earnings of the office applied toward the improvement of the plant and paper with the most gratifying results. Not only has the paper been improved until it is conceded to be brighter and better than ever before, but its advertising and job printing patronage has increased nearly fifty per cent, while its subscription list has grown at a similar rate.

The mechanical department of the paper has been improved in the past six months to such an extent that today the Plaindealer has the finest and most modern printing plant in Southern Oregon. Among the valuable additions and improvements is a

RAILROADS ARE KNOCKERS

The friends of the Panama canal believe that they have discovered the sinister hand of the railroads in the constant "knocking" that is appearing in the newspapers against the canal project and the Commission. The Washington papers have gone to the extent of declaring that there is graft at Panama and that a sweeping investigation will be made by Congress. The canal people strenuously deny this and intimate that the transcontinental railroads have a lobby already at work trying to discredit the canal enterprise.

It is significant that whenever the Eastern newspapers are especially vigorous in demanding railroad rate legislation such agitation is invariably followed by sensational stories from Panama calculated to turn public attention in that direction. The source of the information regarding the alleged terrible conditions on the isthmus is concealed, but many stories have been proved to be wholesale fabrications. Panama is in far better shape, it is held, than New Orleans.

Chairman Shonts of the canal commission is indignant over the insinuations of graft and promises to give out a financial statement soon showing where every dollar has gone. His critics, on the other hand, declare ten millions have been spent without any appreciable progress and that the congestion of business on the Panama railroad has worked much injury to commerce.

So far as public opinion may be gauged, there is no evidence of waning confidence in Chairman Shonts, but, in view of the general suspicion that the Government is honeycombed with graft, it is believed that interests antagonistic to the canal will be able to force an investigation by Congress.

AFTER REAL LAND THIEVES

The indictment of the Tillamook timber land thieves has a little of the right ring.

There is no doubt that large frauds have been perpetrated in that part of the state.

Will they be convicted and then used to indict and convict some more big fish?

The Lane and Douglas county land fraud specialists were all let off, and promised immunity, says the Capital Journal.

The whole purpose of the government has been to convict senators and congressmen.

Why not convict a few of the real thing professional land thieves and send them to prison?

Does any one believe the Tillamook land thieves will be convicted, or sentenced if they are convicted?

Does any one believe that Claude Thayer, the son of an ex-governor, a member of the legal profession, and a Democrat, will be convicted by Heney?

Heney is after the "big fish" for political effect, to make way for other politicians who want their places.

Let us all see what becomes of the Tillamook land thieves, who are of the professional class.

HITCHCOCK CONSISTENCY

The supreme court of the United States has decided an entryman may borrow money to make final proof upon a timber claim. In his charge to the jury in the Williamson trials Judge De Haven said the party or parties lending the money could state what the land would be worth to them; that the law was violated only when there was a contract to make a transfer to a second party as soon as final proof is made. On this technical point hangs the fate of Williamson, Gesmer and Biggs. As the Oregonian admits, it is doubtful if an Oregon jury will ever convict and ruin the reputation of three men who have never before been accused of crime in order to win fame for Mr. Heney and a few special agents of the government. Mr. Hitchcock thinks it is a terrible thing for Congressman Williamson to get his hook in the pork barrel, but it is all right for the scrip syndicate and the railroads to take the government domain away from the poor. "Consistency thou art a jewel."—Coos Bay News.

Patrick Murphy of Coles Valley, in reference to Oregon timberlands and homestead tracts, inquires: "Where is the land of the free man, or where is our great domain?" In answer, we will say that it has about all been gobbled up by the big syndicates and the great railroad companies. What few poor men in Oregon who attempted to secure or profit by a small tract of this land are now under indictment, or up at Portland facing Heney's grand jury. Ask us a hard one, Pat.

The coal mine owned by the Unquiqua Coal Co., of Roseburg includes over 1000 acres of proven coal veins already opened. This is the only coal field yet developed in either Oregon or Washington where such good conditions prevail.

THE ROSEBURG LAND OFFICE

There have been frequent inquiries as to when the Roseburg land office will be opened for business. There is no information to be given out more than that the office is still closed. That is, no receipts are being issued; no filings placed of record and no proofs ordered made, but filings may be made at any time. Special agent H. E. Highy is in charge of the office and filings made are acknowledged by him and the papers are filed with the date when received.

When finally the register and receiver are appointed and the office is open for business these filings will be taken up and passed upon in their regular order. Until the office is opened persons who have made filings have nothing to do but wait. They will be notified when their filings have been reached, and if theirs be homestead filings they will be asked to return to the land office the filing fees which were returned to them when the filing was made. We will simply have to wait until the spirit or something else, moves the Hitchcock administration to act in this matter, which seems to regard our appeals with about the same indifference as did a certain celebrity when he said, "the public be damned."

To meet the demand, the mourners' bench of every church should be constructed on the extension table plan; small for the pastor who has been in charge some years; a new leaf added when a new pastor comes, which can be taken out as he becomes an old broom, and the bench extended family reunion length when a traveling evangelist comes along.

You will enjoy the district fair better if you bring the family along and camp on the grounds or secure accommodations about town.

The correct pronunciation of M. Witte's name is "Vittay."

Musings

Bravery is knowledge of the cowardice of the enemy.

After a girl passes thirty, she is old enough to marry a widower.

Telling them they get about what they deserve makes some people angry.

Your vocabulary is not enriched by the use of swear-words. Skip the busters.

Lots of natural born fools blame love and whisky for their supposed downfall.

How bold and aggressive we all are at times, and how weak and helpless at others.

There never was a man, probably who did not read a complimentary letter at least twice.

Our first choice for Mayor of Roseburg is Jim Nealand. He is also our second choice.

Sometimes we never like to do anything for a stranger who approaches with the word "Brother."

It is said that by a thorough course of physical culture one can overcome anything except a love affair.

Roy McLellan says the bible admonishes you to "take unto yourself a wife," but it don't say whose wife.

It is not only necessary to refrain from kicking a man who is down, but you should not kick a man who is up.

You might as well take your medicine bravely; if you do not, somebody will hold your nose and make you take it.

We are a believer in the sweet voice of a woman, but don't often find it that way after the club adjourns, says Sheriff McLellan.

One should be ashamed to admit that he can't control his temper. To the extent that passion dominates, one is a lunatic.

The groom at a church wedding always looks so scared that people in the audience wonder how he found courage to propose.

Smith Bartram wants to know if we ever held a mental police court and fined ourselves? No, it is only forest supervisors who do that kind of thing.

Dave West has just asked us a hard one. Here it is: "If sitting in a hammock is so much fun, why is it no one ever sees a man and his wife sitting in one?"

Horace Marsters gave us the following tip this week: When a married woman meets an old sweetheart of hers, and he sighs, it is more liable to be a sigh of thankfulness than regret.

Assessor George Staley, who has been there says, "If you tell a friend your trouble and he weeps with you, it is not for your trouble he weeps, but at the recollection of his own."

We haven't heard of Bill Van Buren trading horses, but he philosophizes like this: It takes a power of saving grace to keep a good man from disguising the defects of the horse he is trying to unload for a better one.

What is the use of being good when people argue like Sam Sykes does. Now listen! "There is always a controversy going on as to the worst man in town; but nobody seems to pay much attention to the best man in town."

We hadn't heard of him going to the circus, but Judge Thompson is trying to exonerate someone when he says: If you cease to take any interest in a circus it is a sign that you are getting old or that you have made some mighty poor business investments.

In the novels when she faints, he always finds a little water in the flower vase nearby to sprinkle on her face. Ever lift the flowers and take a look and smell at the water in the vase? We would like to see the woman who would stand for a dose of that in her face.

We are always hearing that this or that man will come out all right in time and that he would be all right if he had a chance, but the great demand of the hour is for men who amount to something now, whether they have a chance or not.

The Fair.

(A Memorial)

If we grudge the need of honor
For the one who sees the need,
Self-forgetful bears the hardship;
Then the man were poor indeed.
But not with sticks of ice, or
Burning on the pagan shrine;
Not with glutinous feasting,
With its draughts of treacherous wine.
Better than shaft of granite,
Or the marble's chisled form,
Better than captured cannon,
Fresh and gay from the storm.
We would show our appreciation
Of the deeds our sires have done,
By proving that we've been worthy
To inherit the land they've won.
And we call the world to witness,
On this bright, midsummer day,
That we've waged a war with nature,
And we've won as well as they.
We have pried into her secrets,
We have chained the catraact's force
We have found her hidden treasure,
Turned her rivers from their course,
Once they foamed and dashed and
thundered
Down their deep, dark canyon bed;
Now the parched and burning desert
Blossoms fresh and fair instead.
We would set in panorama
A view of our native land,
(For type of varied resources,
Of the skill of workers hard.)
We would prove in our fathers honor,
That the prize was worth the pain,
The blood wasn't shed for nothing,
Nor the danger bravely in vain.
We ask that ye search and prove us,
Have we lost the better part?
Their sturdy independence,
Their integrity of heart?
Is their love of right and justice
Kept as spotless as the morn?
Do we loath the cheat and trickster
With their fierce, vindictive scorn?
For we'd keep the homes they left us
From the taint of dishonest wealth,
Unstained by subserving fawning,
Or by honors won by stealth.
Geo. H. Wixson,
Brookway, Ore.

BURWARD IS BEST RIFLEMAN

Seagirt, N. J.—Aug. 28—The national team match, the most important military rifle competition held in this country, will open at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

The national individual match, in which originally there were 652 entries, was won by Private James Burward, Company C, Fifth Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteer Militia, with a total of 430 out of a possible 500. In addition to first prize, consisting of a gold medal and \$50, Private Burward received a prize of a gold medal and \$20 provided for the competitor making the highest aggregate score in skirmish fire.

Lieutenant R. H. Sayre, N. Y. N. G., won the national pistol match with 237 out of a possible 250. Lieutenant James Stedje, U. S. Cavalry, was second with 226. Captain G. E. Cook, of Maryland, and Thomas Anderson, of New York, each scored 224.

If conditions are favorable, the national team may be completed by next Friday evening. That will permit of the holding of the Dryden trophy match, second only in importance to the national, next Saturday.

Society Meetings.

- F. & A. M.—Lafayette Lodge No. 13. Holds regular meetings on second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. W. W. THACKER, W. M. N. T. JAWITT, Secretary.
- F. O. ELKS.—Roseburg Lodge No. 326. Holds regular communications at I. O. O. F. Hall on second and fourth Thursdays of each month. All members requested to attend regularly and all visiting brothers are cordially invited to attend. C. B. CANNON, E. R. W. H. JAMERSON, Secretary.
- O. D. 1st SEPARATE BATTALION O. N. G. meets at Armory Hall every Thursday evening at 8 o'clock. F. B. HAMILIN, Capt.
- F. of A., Court Douglas No. 32.—Forasters of America, meets each Tuesday evening in Forester's Hall. Visiting brothers always welcome. FRITZ STAUFFER, C. R. E. H. LEONX, Rec. Sec. E. N. HOOVER, Physician.
- O. O. F.—Philetarian Lodge No. 8. Meets in Odd Fellows' Temple, corner Jackson and Cass streets, on Saturday evening of each week. Members of the order in good standing are invited to attend. C. F. HARTNER, S. G. N. T. JAWITT, Secretary.
- K. of P.—Alpha Lodge No. 47. Meet every Wednesday, in I. O. O. F. Hall at 7:30 p. m. Members in good standing are invited to attend. J. A. PARKY, C. C. M. F. WRIGHT, K. of R. & S.
- L. I. A. C. CIRCLE.—No. 49. Women of Woodcraft. Meets on 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month at the I. O. O. F. Hall. Visiting members in good standing are invited to attend. MYRTLE LOSS, Guardian Neighbor. CLARA BOKEN, Clerk. Second and Fourth Thursdays.
- O. E. S.—Roseburg Chapter No. 2. Holds their regular meeting on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month. Visiting members in good standing are respectfully invited to attend. Mrs. E. J. STROUD, W. M. FRED JOHNSON, Secretary.
- UNITED ARTISANS, Uniqua Assembly No. 105, meets second and fourth Saturdays of each month, in Native Sons' hall. Visiting members will receive a cordial welcome. A. C. MARSTERS, M. A. MISSIE JONES, Secretary.
- WOODMEN OF THE WORLD.—Oak Oak No. 125, meets at the Odd Fellows' Hall, in Roseburg, every first and third Monday evening. Visiting neighbors always welcome. J. M. BARNOS, C. O. N. T. JAWITT, Clerk.

Notice to Campers

I am now prepared to convey camping parties to and from the mountains or sea coast at reasonable prices. For particulars call on J. W. Dowell, Roseburg, Or. Phone 295.

The District Fair

To be held at Roseburg will bring hundreds of country people to the City, and in order to more thoroughly introduce ourselves to them; we will conduct during September a

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