

Coos Bay Times

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THE COOS BAY TIMES PUBLISHING CO.

FRED PASLEY, EDITOR.
REX LARGE, BUSINESS MANAGER.

The policy of The Coos Bay Times will be Republican in politics, with the independence of which President Roosevelt is the leading exponent.

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COOS BAY TIMES
Marshfield, Oregon.

DISTRICT SEWER PLAN.

Marshfield will lay more sewers in the next two years than for all the time before. As the city expands in growth the amount of expenditures for public improvements will increase enormously over what they have been in the past. Methods that applied for furnishing funds to meet public improvements five years ago will be found to be impractical in a short time under stress of the city's enlargement. To date the sewers laid have been paid out of the general fund. With the maximum limit of the city debt \$25,000 and a present incumbrance of \$14,000 sewer expense will in a short time become a financial elephant, if the present plan of paying for the laying of sewers out of the general fund is followed.

Good streets, electric lights, and city water are all essential, but a sewer system is absolutely imperative to the growing city, while the installation of any of the other three can be delayed for a time. It is necessary that we pursue the most practical and economical method of providing the city with sewers. That plan must be the best which is in universal use in the larger cities, because they, having passed through the different municipal constructive periods, have by a natural process of elimination hit upon the most feasible plan of providing for sewer expenses. The plan in almost universal use, both in the west and east, is the district sewerage plan. By this method residents who are directly benefited by the sewers stand the expense. At present one portion of Marshfield pays for the laying of a sewer for which it reaps absolutely no individual benefit.

It is not so much the fact that the present plan is inequitable as that the city cannot long pursue it without becoming involved in financial difficulty. P. A. Sandberg, Marshfield's city engineer, laid the entire sewer system for Baker City, which has a population of 10,000 people, and about \$55,000 had been expended when he left to accept his position here. The district sewerage plan was used for all of the work in that city. Although the sewers here have been paid out of the general fund similar action can be taken as was in Spokane, where, after several miles of sewer system were laid out of the general fund, the city took them over and the residents who had secured sewer service under that plan recompensed the city, thus enabling it to start out on the district sewer plan on an equitable basis to all citizens.

PROHIBITION ISSUE.

Whether Coquille and Myrtle Point shall go dry or wet are the issues that are calling forth deep interest in the coming election in Coos county on June 3. Merchants in Coquille claim that receipts have fallen off one-third since the town has ousted the saloons, and it is said the same is true of Myrtle Point. Coos Bay and Bandon are getting the benefit of the neighboring cities' losses. If those conditions have been brought

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on the Coquille river cities it appears that the local option law is not a good financial investment in counties where a group of cities are divided into wet and dry precincts because of the resulting loss to merchants in the dry towns. That such a condition exists does not redound to any one's credit. But as the condition does exist it must be met and apparently the only way to meet it is to take the course pursued by the merchants of Coquille.

MEMORIAL DAY.

Forty-six years and forty-eight days ago today General Beauregard, commanding a force of Confederate soldiers, bombarded and captured Fort Sumter, and that event marked the opening of the bloodiest strife ever waged on American soil, the Civil War. Between April 12, 1861, and April 9, 1865, over 600,000 men gave up their lives and this country was plunged into a financial debt of \$800,000,000. What it cost the South can only be reckoned by the wealth of the seceding States before the commencement of the war, for at its close they were nothing but an area of desolation.

Today we pay tribute to the men who fought and died in the Civil War. The meaning of the deeper meaning, for it signifies the cementing of the North and the South into one great country.


MRS. MCKINLEY'S DEATH.

The death of Mrs. William McKinley marks the passing of one of the noblest couples that have ever figured in our national life. Both were perfectly fitted for the place they occupied so long. William McKinley was a rare type of the American citizen. Because of his sterling, kindly character he occupied a place in the hearts of all Americans only second to that of Abraham Lincoln. Mrs. McKinley endeared herself in the hearts of every man, woman and child, and the patient, cheerful manner in which, for thirty years, she suffered physical pain stands out as an example for emulation. Through herself and husband the carnation and the rose hold a sacred place in the hearts of all Americans today.

PROHIBITION.

Topka, Kansas, is in the throes of an epidemic of about every disease in the category. Since April 13 the town has been "dry" and it seems that the prevalence of complaints are a result of the absence of liquor. Although the town is free from saloons the drug store forces are working overtime to alleviate the numberless ills. The balm in all cases is whiskey.

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INTEREST PAID ON TIME DEPOSITS

PUBLIC COLUMN

To the Editor.

"Made in Oregon" is an expression of peculiar significance at this time, when all eyes are watching with eager interest the marvelous growth and wonderful improvements all along this bay region. The newly awakened citizens are vying with each other to help in pushing the wheels of the old machine out of the ruts of the past and smoothing the way for the new prosperity that is crowding in so rapidly. Pretty homes are being built and yards once overrun with weeds and neglect are now filled with flowers and fruit. The new mayor, with commendable pride, has set a good example of his housekeeping by saying to the boys and girls, come, let us clean up, and immediately it is begun and the old disreputable looking trash that was lying about the streets is gathered up and carted off, each one cleaning up before his own premises.

Electric roads and boulevards are talked about wherever a group of men are found, and women are enthusiastic as they see in the near future beautiful homes, fine parks and elegant churches; or talk of the time when a fine opera house or theatre will be built which will tempt the great talent to come here and bring the fine music and plays that go to make society women happy.

Already the reading public is making an effort to secure a public library, and the various clubs, organizations and societies point to advancement along intellectual lines. While we are watching with pride the construction of mills and factories, new docks and warehouses, and while thousands of dollars are pouring in to the city's treasury to advertise and send abroad the reports of the natural resources and splendid products of Coos Bay; while we call the attention of the world to the fish in our waters, the cattle on our hills and valleys; of the great forests of both hard wood and timber for every purpose; of our fruit and vegetables unsurpassed in any State; while we boast of our abundant crops of almost every desirable thing, let us not forget nor neglect the one most important crop—the one that pays the biggest dividends in return for care or neglect—I mean the boys and the girls of today.

They are to be the citizens of to-

morrow, no matter from where they came, or in what school they have studied. These boys and girls are here now. They are the wards of Marshfield. Their "characters" are to be "made in Oregon," and already the people of the east, who are hearing of this wonderful Coos Bay climate are writing letters of inquiry as to Marshfield as a proper place to bring the boys and girls.

In a letter from an eastern man we find the following questions: Is Marshfield a healthy place? Are the people law-abiding citizens, or is Sunday the same as other days in regard to business and pleasure? How many churches have you, and are those you have alive? Are your schools abreast with the times, your teachers educated and experienced men and women, who are qualified to encourage and inspire the pupils to be only satisfied with the best? Are your Marshfield fathers and mothers as anxious for the children's welfare as the advertising shows them to be for the financial prosperity of the city?
M. R. R.


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