

Coos Bay Times

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THE COOS BAY TIMES PUBLISHING CO.

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 Marshfield Oregon

SALOON LICENSES.

Whatever opinion may be held as to the moral principle involved in the manufacture and sale of liquor, or as to the propriety of permitting it to be sold because the appetite has been refined or deformed by habit, the fact is plain and impressive that saloon men will sooner or later find their occupation gone, if they do not measure up to a high standard of public liberality in the community in which they do business. Coming in contact as they constantly do with many people, they are not wise if they cannot understand the signs of the times. Indeed, they should sometimes volunteer certain measures of liberality without being forcibly reminded of their own proper policy by outside and possibly hostile forces. The man who has seen much of the world knows whether the liquor dealers have what is called public spirit, and he will readily confer astonishment if the saloon interests of a town is deficient in such spirit. Marshfield has been growing. It is no longer a little back woods village with only the characteristics of a logging camp. It has many metropolitan features. Property owners are being compelled to bear larger burdens. Public improvements are being made and others planned and the public needs more money for its purposes. The license paid by saloon men in Marshfield is small for a city of its size and when all property owners are being compelled to bear heavier burdens, the saloons should be ready to pay a larger license. In most states and in many Oregon cities the license is one thousand dollars. As it is only four hundred in this city, it could not be considered a hardship if it should be increased. The idea is one which was proposed to the Times by one of the most prominent and respectable men in that line of business in this city and it is very probable that most of the saloons will be ready to give their assent. Why not? If the saloons cannot be public spirited, what likelihood is there that their indifference will not discredit them when their day of trial arrives.

A POLITICO-LEGAL CURIOSITY.
 For ingenious absurdity which would do justice to an island of Sancho Panza, Section 15 of the act incorporating the city of Marshfield is a peach. It provides that nominations for the several offices (of the city) shall be made at a caucus and the names chosen by a majority of the voters of the caucus shall be printed on the ballot and no others. In other words the majority present will nominate the candidate of all the factions. They will decide the platforms of all the parties. They will declare the same policy for all the different elements. Nobody but that particular majority can say a word. There is no minority. The majority speaks for it. It would be interesting to know what the purpose may be of going through the form of an election. The same gentlemen who speak for the majority also speak for the minority. Whoever got in that particular section of the unique Marshfield City Charter must have been pretty sure of his power at the time and certainly is entitled to credit for the plan by which he evidently expected to perpetuate it. But the absurdity of the situation is evident. Never was a city, big or little, provided with more complete machinery for putting itself under the absolute dominion of a boss. If only somebody would tell Boss Murphy, of New York City, and he could get it into the charter! It would enable Tammany to select a popular Democrat and an unpopular Republican at every election. Mur-

phy would own all the parties and, as in Marshfield, there would be no minority in Greater New York. To end as we began—it is a peach.

Poor Place For Convention.

The governor has appointed Hugh McLain and W. P. Murphy delegates to the rivers and harbors convention in Oklahoma. Ye Gods! Think of that. A rivers and harbors convention in a country whose only concern is how to bridge her little streams when they have water in them. What do people in that country know about rivers and harbors? Might as well hold a Panama canal convention on the Sierra desert. Why in the name of common sense are not things done in a common sense way? Common sense would suggest that rivers and harbors conventions be held in close proximity to that locality where rivers and harbors are situated, and among people who have some idea of what a river or harbor is. Most of the Oklahoma streams are nothing but beds of dry sand the greater part of the year, and her people know absolutely nothing of the subject of rivers and harbors, and why a convention looking to the betterment of the merchant marine should be held in Oklahoma is a mystery.—Wedderburn Radium.

—Charter Launch Express at any time.

COQUILLE OFFICER AFTER TRUANTS

Sentinel
 Truant Officer H. W. Dunham has received a letter from County Superintendent W. H. Bunch calling his attention to the law governing truants from the public schools. Mr. Dunham spent Wednesday serving notices upon the parents to compel their children to attend school, and in case the parents refuse or neglect to compel their attendance Mr. Dunham was instructed to institute proceedings against the parents or guardians of the said children as provided for in section 190, Oregon school laws. A number of complaints have been made about children who should be in school being on the streets during the hours they should be in school. Mr. Dunham also received a list of about 30 children who have been absent without leave, and he was also furnished a list of five names by the school board whose parents will also receive notices in regard to their children. Mr. Bunch's letter is as follows:

Coquille, Ore., Nov. 11, 1907.
 To the Truant Officer, Dist. No. 8
 Dear Sir: This is to notify you that those having the guardianship of the children whose names accompany this are not complying with the provisions of the compulsory attendance law, and that you are hereby authorized by the district board of Coos county, Oregon, to investigate said cases of truancy and where necessary to institute proceedings against the parents or guardians of said children as provided for in sec. 190, Oregon School Laws. I am sending blanks for notifying parents to comply with this law. If these are not sufficient in number you can write additional notices, using the same form.

W. H. Bunch.
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..... Junction	
Lv. 9:45a.m. Coquille	Lv. 11:30a.m.	
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 Office over Sengstacken's Drug Store
 Phones—Office 1621; Residence 783
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 Office over First National Bank,
 Residence, two blocks north of
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 1431.

Lawyers.
J. W. BENNETT,
 Office over Flanagan & Bennett Bank.
 Marshfield, Oregon
Francis H. Clarke Jacob M. Blake
 Lawrence A. Liljeqvist
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