

Coos Bay Times

AN INDEPENDENT REPUBLICAN NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED EVERY DAY EXCEPTING MONDAY AND ALSO WEEKLY BY

THE COOS BAY TIMES PUBLISHING CO.

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

Entered at the postoffice at Marshfield, Oregon, for transmission through the mails as second class mail matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

In Advance.	
DAILY.	
One year	\$5.00
Six months	\$2.50
Less than 6 months, per month	.50
WEEKLY.	
One year	\$1.50
Local readers, 10c per line.	

Address All Communications to COOS BAY DAILY TIMES Marshfield Oregon

BUSINESS IS BUSINESS

After all is said and done the vital issue of this campaign in city politics is whether the city shall quit the careless, clumsy, incomplete, crude and inefficient system of doing city business which has been practiced in Marshfield during its years of self-betrimment and adopt a system which is business like and up to date. No man's honesty is impugned, but it does bring up very prominently each man's experience and acquaintance with business methods as applied to city affairs. One of the reasons why the late caucus was so unpopular was that it did not smack of business. Some of its manipulators thought it a joke and to all the world outside of Marshfield it was a joke. But the situation has changed since the city council or the patent political caucus is merely a social affair. Things have got serious. The city of Marshfield is no longer a joke but a fact and real evils have to be met and met seriously.

It is not business to conduct the city business "under a bushel." It is not business to hold council meetings without giving the public notice. It is not business to enact an ordinance and file it away in an alcove and yet hold the citizens to a knowledge of its contents. It is not business to have no ordinances published or to take two years to get them published and then some. It is not business to be without a full and complete system for municipal bookkeeping and it is not business to have no financial statements until asked out and compelled to do so the exigencies of a political campaign. It is not business to assume that because a disorderly house is located in a very improper place that must be permitted to stay there all the city government can find other place for it. The city government has no right to concern itself with finding places for illegal institutions to exist. It is not business to fine notorious violators of law once a year, when it is plain enough that they should be fined as often as the police discover them. It is not business to have a useless street roller and to fill up the principal streets with useless rock on a sense of paving.

If the people of Marshfield have a feeling that the future of this city is great as they have repeatedly asserted, they will realize at once if methods referred to are continued, they will be mixed up and condensed in the next two years to such extent that nobody will dare to undertake their extrication. It is necessary to say that any candidate for office is either dishonest or patriotic, but it is necessary to say whether the people want a business man with business methods to the progression of progress as mayor, or shall the old time methods, which have been outgrown, continued. Smith represents not PROGRESS, but orderly, systematic and scientific progress and is naturally the business man's best candidate.

BEHIND JUDGE HALL

After all the city council and mayor have no duty to perform in giving the public information on subject of municipal finances according to the Campaigner, when the auditor files quarterly reports, all mayor and council have to do is these quarterly reports from Judge Hall and file them away in the alcove where he keeps the minutes. There they remain and are a tempestuous political campaign for the people to unearth them get a statement. Now Judge Smith is a man who is not in any way involved in this campaign and the Campaigner is not showing much of

its vaunted moral (?) courage in trying to hide behind him. Nobody in Marshfield has one word of criticism of the integrity and efficiency of Judge Hall. No doubt his books are open for inspection. No doubt he does his duty and makes reports, and when he makes them the city government should order them published just as it is done everywhere else. The people do not examine the books. The Straw committee got their information from Judge Hall's books in part and made their partial report therefrom. The people all looked over that report as a curiosity and a very unusual one in Marshfield. But it required the records of the Recorder as well as those of the treasurer to make that report, for the treasurer has no means of knowing what warrants are outstanding. Nobody ever charged Judge Hall with speculating in town lots for the city's account especially when such lots were not needed. He has never been charged with blindly vacating the New Bedford addition and receiving and accepting a squeezed lemon from Mr. Shine which completely shut the city off from adjoining additions. (See the west end of Second street for example.) Judge Hall is not charged with the extraordinary change in the grades of the city streets by which property holders have been compelled to buy their property over again in street assessments, and, to put it mildly, without the property being improved thereby. In fact it is commonly reported that if Judge Hall's advice had been asked about these transactions he would have promptly set down on them.

A good deal has been said about the amount of the property owners' money which has been spent building streets. Are the property owners satisfied with the manner in which these expenditures were conducted? Were the work superintended and the expenses guarded as a good business man would have done? Were the specifications lived up to by the contractors or were the contracts dished out to a favored few with a lenient and slack overseer in charge? These are matters that should be considered by the voters when voting on December 3rd, and their importance can not be cloaked by the absurd action of the Campaigner in trying to drag Judge Hall into the conflict.

CHARTER AMENDMENTS.

When the polls open Tuesday morning the people of Marshfield will proceed to decide the most important election which has occurred in its history. When the polls have closed it will be seen whether Marshfield realizes her duty to place her municipal affairs on a business basis and prepare for the great prosperity and the increase of population and wealth which her assured industries and her commanding position, demands. She should not, however, in the discussion of methods and persons involved in this campaign, overlook the proposed amendments to the charter. These are fully as important as the selection of men, and they will influence very largely the future development of the city.

The first and most important proposed amendment gives the city council larger powers so far as incurring municipal indebtedness is concerned. The Marshfield charter was probably framed some years ago to meet the peculiar needs of a small town. For such uses it was no doubt sufficient except in some very ridiculous features. One of these ridiculous features was the Gag Rule Caucus which was so badly abused recently in Odd Fellows' Hall. Probably its doom is sealed forever by being superseded through the increase of Marshfield's population. In any event the people will never stand for a repetition of the action which that feature of the charter was made to justify. But another feature of the charter was that it limited the indebtedness which this city can incur to \$25,000. This was abused. It was a straight jacket. Now it is proposed to have the charter amended so that the usual limitation which occurs in up-to-date charters—that is to say—to allow this city to incur indebtedness of five per cent of the assessed valuation of all real and personal property within its territory. This amendment is absolutely necessary to enable the city to provide for its future and even its present needs and at the same time is a salutary check on any possible extravagance. Every voter should vote YES.

The second proposed amendment enlarges the territory of the city. There may be some pertinent legal questions as to the method of acquiring new territory, but these questions are not necessary to be considered at this time. There are portions of the territory proposed to be annexed which object to coming in and others which are anxious to come in. Possibly the attempt to take in the former without their consent will not stand the test of a legal contest, but the legal advisers of the city have advised this action and the

policy of annexation is undoubtedly a good one. The safest thing for the voter to do is to give his vote in favor of a good policy and this is one.

FINANCIAL KINGS

When the financial kings are mentioned in these columns nobody on Coos Bay is intended at present. If the financial kings lived in this prosperous metropolis, that fact would be in some measure, sufficient to render them immune from local assault. But they live on the other side of the continent and are generally held responsible for the present panic. Even Tom Lawson is out in a letter in which he charges "the system" with complicity in the scheme which tumbled the castle of American prosperity over at one fell swoop. It was great to see Messrs. Rockefeller and Morgan shovelling money into the banks in New York to show their confidence in the situation and doing it to inspire confidence in the people so they would take their money out of their stockings and let Messrs. Morgan and Rockefeller have it. Although much has been said about the money being hidden in stockings, yet it is strongly suspected that Morgan and Rockefeller know where the biggest stockings are and when they think they have whipped the government into line it is possible they will bring out those big stockings again. One thing is plain. That panic came so suddenly that it did not give much time to get money out of the banks to put into stockings. If a million little financiers conspired to do it they did what no million ever did before. The two Johns of New York City could conspire and could use their stockings, for they knew what was coming. The million didn't. They had not even lost confidence when the banks all closed tighter than a clam and have not allowed any stocking competition since. The financiers are entitled to great credit. They knocked us into the water and pulled us out with hooks in our flesh. We thank them for saving us but what shall we do with the scoundrels who knocked us into the water?

—Don't fail to get Milner's prices on Shot Guns and Ammunition.

IRRIGATION RECLAIMS A VAST EMPIRE

Chicago, Nov. 16.—Nearly a million acres of land, an empire of opportunity for the farmer, the fruit grower, and the cattle raiser, is being reclaimed by irrigation along the lines of the Southern Pacific railroad in the West and Southwest. In the neighborhood of Yuma on partly in Arizona and partly in California, will be served by the canals the Colorado River, 100,000 acres on which rapid progress is being made. Profitable cultivation of this soil has heretofore been impossible owing to the destructive floods of the Gila River. Now this section is being made ready for the settler by a dam across the Colorado above Yuma by canals under the Gila and a system of levees which will protect the territory from overflow.

In this semi-tropic climate and soil, oranges, lemons, dates and grapes lead the products of a soil which will produce almost anything. In the same neighborhood the lands saved from destruction by the Southern Pacific's success in closing the breach in the Colorado are yielding phenomenal crops. Yuma has about 2,000 residents, with schools, church-

House and lot on C st. \$800.00. House and lot in R. R. Add. \$1500.00. Corner 125x140 on Burnett and Nevada sts. \$2100.00 2 lots on Broadway, close in \$1260.00. Business lot and good residence on First st. \$5000.00. We can sell you just the kind of property you want. We have all kinds of city property on our list. If you want to invest your money safely invest on Coos Bay. In Coos County you will find some of the most fertile soil and some of the best fruit and dairy lands in the United States. If you want a ranch see us before buying.

Stutsman & Co.

The Taylor Piano House is Closing Out the Entire Stock ---OF--- Eiler's Pianos WHICH CONSISTS OF 12 OR 15 PIANOS AND ORGANS

These goods will be sold at prices never before heard of in Marshfield. Among this lot are Webers, H. M. Cables, Clarendons, Baileys and other high-grade instruments. The object of this sale is to clear myself of this incumbrance as I have made arrangements for other goods.

TAYLOR PIANO HOUSE

BROADWAY

es, hotels, and is the centre of trade of a large area. The Southern Pacific railway runs through the town and all of the newly irrigated area is in direct touch with this main transcontinental avenue of traffic. With Phoenix as a centre, another vast irrigation work, covering 200,000 acres is being carried out. Here also is the climate of oranges and other fruits of many kinds, all served by the lines of Santa Fe from the north and Southern Pacific on the south. To this territory, the Government is simply supplying a larger and more regular water supply than existed before, and the far-sighted settlers who are taking up and Goldfield, Cereals, alfalfa, vegetable and highly developed community.

WHO IS? **GEO. GOODRUM** The Gent's Furnisher

If you do not know him it will be to your advantage to get acquainted, for he always has a swell line of NIFTY TOGGERY as well as STAPLES. Something new in NIFTY HATS, TIES, COAT SWEETERS, UMBRELLAS, BATH ROBES, PAJAMA SUITS, HOSIERY AND SUSPENDERS for the HOLIDAY TRADE just arrived.

ASK FOR WHAT YOU DO NOT SEE

BLACKSMITHING

HORSE SHOING A SPECIALTY

Machine shop and cabinet maker in connection.

ALL WORK PROMPTLY AND PRACTICALLY DONE

ED. COLGAN

Foot of Queen Ave. Near Rock Crusher