

CITY HAS ITS WORK TO TABOO SEINES

NEW FUNCTIONS OF MODERN MUNICIPALITIES OUTLINED

J. T. Brand Delivered Interesting Paper Before Fellowship Club—Suggestions Are Timely

"The Recent Extension of Municipal Functions" was the topic of a paper read by James T. Brand before the last gathering of the Fellowship Club and which was very well received.

Briefly the speaker scanned the development and changes in the purpose and work of the modern city. "The modern city," says Mr. Brand in his paper, "is no longer content merely to perform the medieval functions of protection. We are at least realizing the enormous influence of environment on character."

"Sermonizing is well and good, but when it is scientifically demonstrated that the number of thefts varies directly with the price of bread, something more than talk is necessary. The character and happiness of our people is directly dependent on the surroundings in which they live. The cities have awakened to this fact."

Public Markets Are Successful

"The movement for public markets is one of the most characteristic features of the new era. Their success is still in dispute and the objections to them are many." This fact the speaker explains by saying that municipal markets are slow in gaining popularity owing to the fact that the people are not educated up to them.

Vegetables Are Sold Cheaply

"It is a function of the government to support paupers. At last we are realizing that it is also the province of the government to prevent pauperism and sorrow and crime, as well as to incarcerate it when produced. The public market is the one great constructive preventative of pauperism. It is for the poor. It is no injustice to the rich. But right or wrong, it is on its way."

Develop Intensive Lines

"The greatest need among many needs of Coos Bay, is the development along intensive lines of our outlying territory. Public markets would do this. Within a few days time we have exported and imported potatoes, ultimately eating an inferior product. The Coos Bay producer lost the freight one way and the consumer lost it the other. Butter is being shipped south and put in storage, and the same identical butter reshipped to us and consumed here, being only sweetened by the double dose of transportation charges, and the aroma of a San Francisco packing plant."

Touching on the administrative lines of city government, Mr. Brand pointed out "the present city council-mayor-plan in most of our cities, has created a maze of uncertainty and a labyrinth, in which graft can be hid and responsibility lost."

Commission Government

"The need of our city is a short ballot and the absolute centralization of authority and responsibility, subject to the check of the people themselves through the referendum and recall. The most progressive cities have recognized the utter futility of the old days and have adopted the commission form of government. That this is a vast gain over the old way, cannot be denied."

City Manager Plan

"Out of commission government, has developed the city manager plan. It is the outgrowth of logical thought. It is the product of modern business and has been proved by experience. The people elect five commissioners from the best citizenship of the town. These men are to the city government what a board of directors is to private business corporations. They are its legislative head on matters of general policy, and they hire a manager who runs a city as any other manager runs any other great enterprise. Both commission and manager are subject to recall. The manager has the hiring and dismissing of every city officer and employee. He is directly responsible for all wrongs of commission or omission. It is the ideal government."

Dayton Is Illustration

He gave an illustration of the working of the system, that of Dayton, Ohio. In 18 months Dayton decreased her debt \$71,000, and increased her assets \$407,000. Furthermore, she increased the public service rendered 100 percent without increasing taxes a dollar. The city spent \$250,000 on entirely new and therefore untried projects. They built parks, playgrounds, bathing beaches, sewers and roads. The death rate of babies was reduced 40 percent in one year, and the death rate from typhoid was reduced 80 percent. Public clinics were established, waste places were utilized and in short, the city was transformed.

The work of modernizing the administration of a city seems to be a strange combination of humanizing and de-humanizing forces. Cities are becoming more and more, on the one hand paternalistic, and on

TO TABOO SEINES OFFICERS ELECTED

ANGLERS WOULD RESTRICT COMMERCIAL FISHING

Claim That All Salmon Are Stopped at Mouth by Cannermen—To Introduce Measures

Seine fishing at the mouth of the Rogue River is coming in for some rough handling at the meeting of the Oregon Sportsmen's League in Portland on December 20, when the delegates from southern Oregon gather there. The amateur fishermen of the upper Rogue bear a grudge against the commercial interests that seine the mouth of the river in the height of the season and allow almost no fish to come through into the upper river.

The law requires that no steelheads be taken from Rogue river except with hook and line, but it is said that in each operation of the 3,000 foot seine dozens and even hundreds of steelheads were dragged ashore and the claim is made by the delegates from the upper river that seldom were these fish thrown back into the water until the good salmon had been carefully sorted out.

The delegates assert that this careless handling of steel heads resulted in a great amount of waste, as many fish were dead before being returned to the water.

It is said that the season just closed on the Rogue has been the poorest of many years, from the standpoint of the anglers, though the canneries at the mouth of the river made a fair showing. The sportsmen contend that this is quite natural, because they got the greater share of the fish that came into the river, allowing only a few to get by.

Closed Fishing in 1910

In 1910 the Rogue River was absolutely closed to all commercial fishing and the claim is now made that the delegates from southern Oregon to the League meeting in Portland are coming with "blood in their eyes" and determined to oust the clubs of the state in aiding them to secure a closed commercial season on the Rogue for at least the period of one year.

In the season now closed the Maceley estate and the B. A. Seaborg company each operated a salmon cannery at the mouth of the Rogue. The former company is said to have put up about 14,000 cases and the latter concern about 5,000 cases.

the other hand coldly scientific."

Garbage Collection

An illustration of the former is the juvenile court work, and of the latter, the collection of garbage and ashes. . . . Three methods of performances are in vogue. The license system, the contract system, and the direct performance by the city itself. The pendulum is swinging toward the direct operation by the city.

"The imperative requirements of hygiene and sanitation, demand that this work be done and done well."

Analyses Show Well

"This is merely the starting point of the problem. The conclusion can best be shown by an illustration. An analysis shows garbage to be 70 percent moisture, 3 percent grease, 20 percent fibrous material, and 7 percent rubbish. A number of cities are now making soap, oils, fertilizers, and gas, from their city garbage."

"In New York it was found that in 1,000 loads of ashes, there will be 2,400 pounds of paper, 3,000 pounds of rags, 300 empty barrels, two tons of old iron, and 856 pounds of rubbish. The ashes themselves contained 30 percent clinker, 45 percent fine ash and 28 percent unburned or partially burned coal. The ash was used for the manufacture of Portland cement, the clinker for cement work, and the coal for fuel. The ashes had to be removed either by the house holder or the city in any event and the result of large scale production by the city was a net saving."

"I can go no further into this vast and absorbing topic of the extension of municipal functions, except to point out that the new enterprises I have mentioned are not named for their own sake nor as part of a propaganda for immediate adoption in Marshfield."

"In the last 20 years, cities have been taking over and operating coal yards, steamship lines, factories, water, light and power plants, ice plants, theatres, tenement houses, markets, ports, harbors and docks. We are not here to determine what shall be the relation of Coos Bay to a world movement which is coming with the resistless force of a tidal wave."

GENE GRANT, foreman of one of the Smith-Powers camps near Powers, was a Marshfield business visitor yesterday.

AMONG THE SICK

Joe Schott is laid up with an attack of poison oak sustained from handling logs at the Smith mill.

LONG FIGHT STARTS

ORDER OF SONS OF VETERANS MEET HERE THIS MORNING

F. G. Horton is Commander for 1916—Members Plan On Holding Social Campfire Gatherings

At a meeting of the Sons of Veterans held today the annual election of officers took place and the new officers were installed by C. B. Zeek, of Bandon, the senior vice commander for the division comprising Oregon, Washington and Alaska.

The order expects to hold, in addition to its quarterly meetings, camp fire "get together" events monthly, for social purposes, alternating between North Bend and Marshfield. The members expect to attend the funeral of Henry Miller, at North Bend tomorrow in a body.

The following were elected: Commander F. G. Horton Senior V. C. W. H. Chapell Junior V. C. B. B. Weldy Secretary Earl Powell Treasurer C. W. Walcott Guide C. L. Reigard Chaplain Rev. Stubblefield Musician Vince Pratt Color Bearer C. H. Walter

GREAT RECORD OF THE OVERLAND CAR

H. J. KIMBALL DEMONSTRATES REMARKABLE EFFICIENCY OF COOLING SYSTEM—ONE OF MANY FEATURES OF FINE CAR

What is one of the most remarkable demonstrations of the efficiency of the modern automobile is shown in H. J. Kimball's experience with the cooling system of his Overland car. Mr. Kimball purchased this car in the latter part of August from Isaac R. Tower, the Overland dealer here. Mr. Tower claimed so much for the cooling system on this car that Mr. Kimball became interested in finding out for himself just how correct these apparently extravagant claims were. Having had considerable to do with automobiles, Mr. Kimball, after a hard trip, would get out his water bucket and prepare to fill the radiator but with considerable surprise would discover that the car had not used any water and consequently he could not put any more in. After while he cut out filling the bucket and would take a peek once in a while to satisfy himself that he wasn't dreaming. After this had gone on for several months he drove around to the Gunnery and told Mr. Tower that he wasn't as big a liar as he thought he was. This morning he showed his speedometer mileage to be above 1200 miles and swore that there has never been a drop of water put into his radiator since he bought the car last August. He figures that about next Fourth of July he may put in a few drops. Kimball says that an Overland owner doesn't care whether the country goes dry the first of the year or not.

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LONG FIGHT STARTS

LITIGATION TO FORECLOSE ON GRANTS BRINGS TROUBLE

Douglas Already Has Matter on Foot and Coos Is Soon to Begin—Means Legal Battles

Coos county stands one of the best chances in the world of losing close to \$400,000 in delinquent taxes due from the Southern Oregon company and the O. and C. land grant, according to District Attorney Liljeqvist.

Close on the heels of the federal court decision in Portland declaring that the lands of these two concerns can be held at only \$2.50 an acre, comes a suit in the Roseburg courts to throw out the case of the county against these lands for taxes on the grounds that the land has been taxed at the rate of about \$14 an acre and not \$2.50. The county started to foreclose on the lands and this started the action.

This, believes Mr. Liljeqvist, is the opening gun of litigation that will have to wade its way through the maze of the courts and may bring no direct results to the county for at least seven or eight years, and even then, the possibilities are that there will be a reduction in assessment which lops off a goodly sum that the county had counted on eventually collecting.

Did Not Protest Taxes

And now there arises another question in this connection. Why, if the companies now protest the assessment of more than \$2.50 an acre, did they not before this go to the board of tax equalization with their protests? It is quite possible that this phase may have an important bearing on the matter.

As the situation now stands the decision of the federal court in Portland is appealed to the United States circuit court of appeals in San Francisco, and from there it will have to go to the Supreme Court of America.

And in the meantime Coos county secures no money for tax purposes from these land grants.

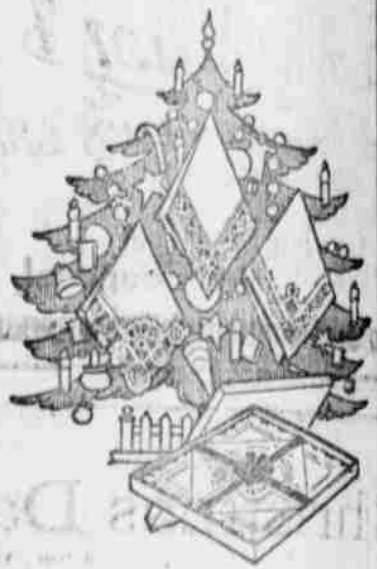
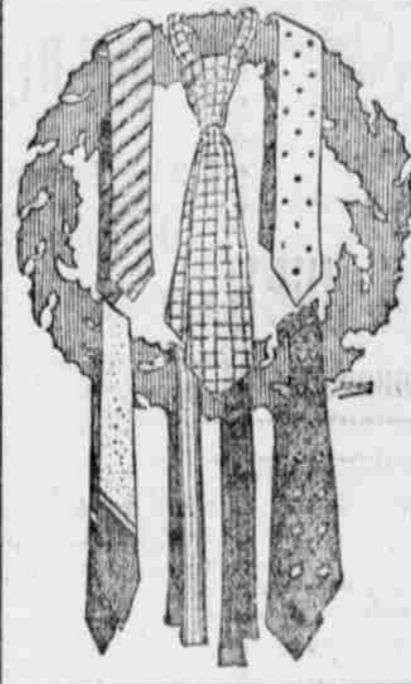
Mr. Liljeqvist is anxious for Judge Skipworth to come here, and Coos will also start the ball rolling, by proceeding to foreclose on some of the land which is now in litigation.

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See
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Abstracts

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