

Ashland Tidings



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The Tidings has a greater circulation in Ashland and its trade territory than all other local papers combined.

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Ashland, Ore., Monday, May 21, 1917

THE SIX-MILLION BOND ISSUE.

Last winter the legislature passed a law doubling automobile taxes and providing that all auto taxes should go into the state road fund. This fund would be expended by the state for roads from year to year as it came in. That law had nothing to do with a bond issue. Under it the amount would be scattered over a number of years and it would be at least twenty-five years before we got general good roads, such as are planned by the state highway commission, over the state. Whether the bonds are voted June 4 or not, this auto tax will be collected.

Then some members of the legislature asked: If we are to double the auto tax, as provided in that law, and get a little road out of it during our life, why not work out a plan to build them quick and be using them while the yearly tax is coming in?

That was the foundation thought for the six-million-dollar bond issue. Why not issue bonds and build all the roads at once, making the term of the bonds so that the auto taxes already provided, and which will be collected anyhow, will pay the interest and sinking funds on the bonds without any further levy and get the roads now?

Therefore, whether the bonds are voted up or voted down on June 4, the auto licenses will be doubled.

If the bonds are voted down the auto tax will be expended by the state on roads from year to year as the money comes in.

If the bonds are voted the good roads will be built at once and the automobile licenses will be applied in payment of the principle and interest on the bonds. If the bonds are voted taxes will not be raised.

The railroads are donating the use of thousands of acres of right of way for farming purposes.

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AMATEUR GARDENERS.

The paragraphers and comic papers are having lots of fun with the amateur gardeners. According to their point of view, the novice agriculturist spends most of his time evenings rubbing arnica on his lame muscles, while he can be distinguished on the street by his lame walk.

In so far as the back yard farmers are suffering from their unaccustomed labors, their inconvenience is useful in that it reveals muscles that were lying dormant. It is surprising how any new kind of exercise will uncover faults in one's physical development. A man may be an excellent walker, capable of tramping many miles, and may be proficient at some form of athletic sport like tennis or golf, yet when he wields the hoe he finds that many of his muscles were getting no exercise, and that games had only helped him in a one-sided way.

A man may go along year after year doing sedentary work and think that he is in good health. Then all at once he collapses, and the doctor tells him he must have more exercise and outdoor life. He buys an expensive automobile or purchases a health exerciser or joins a physical culture class. But if muscles have been suffered to lose their fiber through long years of neglect, they can never be put back where they were.

Wherefore let the gardener rejoice, even though for a few days he may need to use a bit of witch hazel on his creaking limbs. It simply means that they are reawakening out of sleep into life, and if he will keep at it he will be getting a physical development for which other men are earning good money. The gardener gets something other than the choice of vegetables which he stores away in his basement.

SPRING IMPROVEMENTS.

Spring is a time when the desire for improvements is felt by self-respecting people. There are too many persons who complain bitterly if the heavy taxpayers do not provide them. Meanwhile they refuse to take the first step to improve their own places.

A man who owns a house need never think the thing is finished merely because he has paid and discharged the carpenters, masons and plumbers. There are always things wearing out, and these tend to make the place look unkempt and run down. Standards of living grow higher as time goes on, and to keep up with the procession people must expect to spend a little money from time to time.

It is a poor investment for people to put money into a house unless they are willing to spend a little from year to year to keep the thing up. Before they know it the property will look seedy and its selling value falls. It gets a reputation as a place not well maintained, and if they wanted to dispose of it they would find this out.

One of the most attractive things about a place is a good system of walks from doors to the street. The man who maintains a rough walk built of cinders or mere earth would find that a good cement walk would add more than double its cost to the appearance of his real estate. Then there are people who put in some form of paved walk, but allow it to

become broken, in which case it looks worse than no pavement at all.

Improvements along these lines help in the general appearance of a neighborhood and a town. No matter how much money is spent on streets and parks and sidewalks, if houses are allowed to go unpainted, without proper walks, with tumble-down sheds and fences in the rear, and without an attractive adornment of shrubbery, the town will look decadent and all real estate will suffer.

THE PARABLE OF THE WOMAN WHO WORRIED.

(By Mary Agnes Daily.)

Once upon a time in the reign of the good Woodrow Wilson, there dwelt in a far province a certain woman called Worry Ann. She was espoused to a man called Jonah, but she took no delight in him, for she kept before her mind continually a vision of the man she thought he ought to be. Her anguish was exceedingly great and she cried aloud unto the Lord:

"O Lord, behold the man thou didst give to be a helpmeet unto me. Lo! he is as ashes in my mouth. I find no virtue in him."

Her troubles were as numerous as the sands on the seashore, and those which came not to her she straightway went out and borrowed.

"For," said she, "is it not meet that I should sympathize with my neighbor? I rejoice exceedingly that I am not like unto that Happy Jane who goeth about wearing a smile like unto a basket of chips."

Now it pleased the Lord to bless the pair and give them offspring. Nevertheless, instead of a blessing, each new little branch became as a thorn in the side of the woman, and being sorely tried she cried bitterly:

"O Lord, look upon this little innocent one. Canst thou not see that there cometh a time when, having reached manhood's estate, he can not associate with the rich because of this curse of poverty which afflicteth us?"

Of another she mourned: "Of a surety now is my soul troubled, for, O Lord, this child which thou gavest me is not bright. For, verily, although but an immature child, nevertheless he has not yet selected for himself a profession by which he can earn renown, likewise a competence unto his old age."

Now it came to pass that this woman's friends became sorely afflicted. Yea, verily, they could no longer endure her mourning and walling. Wherefore they visited her not and took occasion to be elsewhere when she approached their dwellings. And she, knowing not their thoughts, grieved secretly, for she had not one friend in whom she could confide.

And lo! her sons waxed tall and strong, but were surfeited with much grieving. And it came to pass that they left their father's house and found their pleasures elsewhere.

Afterward, being so minded, they took unto themselves wives. Each one a wife took he unto himself. Now these women were not perfect, but because love is blind they appeared so in the eyes of their husbands. Not so, however, in the eyes of Worry Ann. Lest they forget their faults she reminded them of them continually.

And it came to pass that one of these women could bear no more and cried out unto her husband with a loud voice, "I will arise and go to my mother," and burst out weeping violently.

And her husband was sore afraid and said unto her: "Wherefore doest thou desire to leave me? Have I not always been a good husband to thee?"

But she answered him saying: "Yea, verily, that hast thou been. But thy mother, 'tis she whom I can not endure."

"Thou shalt go with me to a far country. There we shall have peace and rest." And they went to a far country and were happy.

And lo! after a time the other son's wife came unto her husband

saying: "Lo! these many years have I put up with much for thy sake. I will endure no more. Let us also do like unto thy brother." And they likewise went and dwelt at a distance.

And when they were gone there arose a great wailing and mourning in the house of Worry Ann. Once more she cried unto the Lord:

"O Lord, now indeed am I desolate. Yea, verily, now am I bereaved and sorely afflicted. For my children and my children's children are no longer about me. Who shall read the desolation of a mother's heart?"

And Worry Ann died and was laid with her fathers, and there was not one found to mourn her loss.

Moral. Don't be a Gloom. Love everyone, even your daughters-in-law. It pays in the end.

Heard and Overheard

(By Lynn D. Mowat.)

If the first automobile should make its appearance on the streets of the city again, it would create more of a sensation than it did on its initial appearance.

A Riddle.

This actually happened. A man from the rustic districts near town brought in a sack of parsnips. "What will you give me?" he asked of a storekeeper.

"One twenty-five," was the offering. He took it.

Ten minutes later, while the sack was standing on the walk, along came a city man. "Fine parsnips you got there. What do you want for 'em?"

"Three twenty-five," said the storekeeper.

"I'll take 'em," said the C. M. Question. Who was stung worse, the city man or the country man?

Answer: The storekeeper. The city man bought them on credit and went bankrupt on account of the high cost of living.

A hen owned by Albert Howard at Merlin made a nest, laid eggs and hatched a brood of chickens in an oak tree, thirty feet from the ground. Feared a submarine, no doubt.

Ted Hatfield, who is going into the garden business, has his application in with the secretary of the navy for a navy uniform on the grounds that he is going to raise navy beans.

We'd rather risk a railroad wreck Than has a/boil upon our neck.

The Toledo & Siletz Railroad Company has incorporated for \$75,000, and the Siletz Logging Company for \$30,000.

The Gresham cannery may share in a \$1,000,000 government contract.

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Sends Memorial Day Pamphlets

The Memorial day pamphlet printed by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Churchill has been sent out to the various schools throughout the state with its suggestions for the observance of this day. It contains many patriotic selections.

In addition, Superintendent Churchill suggests that where arrangements can be made with the presiding judge of the district those who are ready to become citizens of the United States should be assembled on Memorial day and the final act of citizenship be made a part of the ceremonies. He further suggests the establishment of a unique custom, namely, that of having all the young men and young women who during the past year have become of age assemble on Memorial day and take the pledge of allegiance to the flag, this ceremony to be followed by a brief address on the duties of citizenship by the circuit judge or some other qualified speaker.

Milton may have a dehydrating plant.

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