

JUDGE OF CLATSOP COUNTY

Sketch of the Career of Hon. C. J. Trenchard, Who Has Been Elected to Public Office on Six Different Occasions.

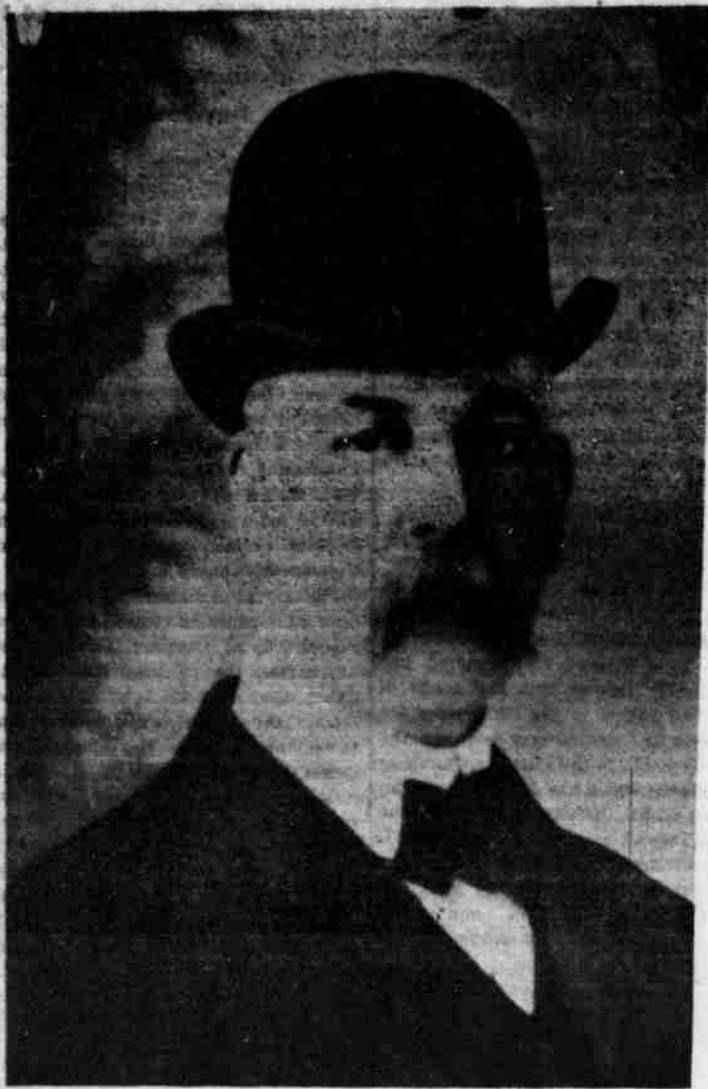
Hon. C. J. Trenchard is one of the few prophets who have been accepted in their own land. When he has finished his present term as Judge of Clatsop county he will have held public office for 14 years, 10 of them as county clerk. Judge Trenchard is still a young man, and, being very popular, will probably remain in his present position for a long time to come.

Curtis J. Trenchard is a native Astorian, and was born, June 4, 1853, in a house now used as a woodshed that stands in the center of the block bounded by Commercial and Duane, Ninth and Tenth streets. He has lived in Astoria all his life, with the exception of two years that were spent on Vancouver Island and a short time at Westport, where he was engaged as a stereographer and accountant. In 1871

again nominated, against J. O. Spencer, and was elected. In 1888 he returned the defeat that Colonel Spedden had given him, being elected by 97 majority over his first opponent. In all, Mr. Trenchard held the office of county clerk five terms, defeating F. I. Dunbar, now secretary of state, and H. F. Prast.

Judge Trenchard has always been a gold democrat, and in 1896 was a Palmer and Buckner elector.

In 1892 Judge Trenchard was the successful candidate for county judge against the lamented J. H. D. Gray. With the single exception of one victory, Judge Trenchard's campaigns have always been close ones, and only once did he receive more than 100 majority. In the eight years that he was out of politics he was agent for Wells



he joined the volunteer fire department of this city, which in those days was wont to establish world's records. For several years he was foreman of company No. 1, afterwards first assistant chief, and still later chief. In 1878 he was president of the board of delegates, and old-timers will recall that he had charge of a three days' fair to raise money to build the bell tower that now adorns the city hall. The fair netted \$900, with which the tower was erected and the bell purchased.

In 1894 Judge Trenchard entered the political arena, the democrats nominating him for county clerk against Colonel Spedden. There was never a more exciting fight for office, and the official count showed that Colonel Spedden had been successful by one vote. In 1888 Mr. Trenchard was

Fargo and Pacific Express companies. Judge Trenchard's father was a physician who came to California in 1847 and to Oregon in 1849. Doctor Trenchard was a member of the Oregon legislature when Senators Baker and Nesmith were elected—in 1859. He died in 1867 of inflammatory rheumatism. Mrs. Trenchard is still living in Astoria, at the age of 76. She was born March 13, 1826, in Maryland.

Judge Trenchard is progressive and intends continuing the work of the county court in the building of roads and other improvements. He is a warm advocate of the proposal for a new courthouse and hopes during his term to provide for its construction. His associates in the conduct of the affairs of the county are Commissioners Andrew Young and C. C. Clarke.

WILL FRAME NEW ROAD MEASURE

Representative Carnahan Preparing a Bill for Presentation at the Approaching Session of the Oregon Legislature.

At the coming session of the legislature Representative-elect C. W.



Carnahan will present a measure to make extensive changes in the road laws of the state. Mr. Carnahan has

given the subject of roads much consideration, and believes his bill will merit the approval and support of members of the legislature generally. He is of the opinion that the road laws should be about the same in character as the school laws with reference to the levying of taxes—that the money derived from taxes in each district should be expended in that district. The bill will provide for a general state levy of 5 mills, which shall apply to all localities, and each district will be authorized to make such additional levies as the requirements of the highways may demand. This will take out of the hands of county courts the fixing of levies, and the bill has many features which will commend themselves to good roads enthusiasts. During the recent good roads convention held in ferent counties of Oregon. His bill will embody the best ideas obtainable. Portland Mr. Carnahan met the government commissioners and thoroughly discussed the matter with them, as well as with representatives from the different counties of Oregon. His bill will embody the best ideas obtainable.

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