Oregon Daily Journal

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

C. S. JACKSON.....Publisher
[Be calm, be confident, be cheerful and do unto others as you would have them do unto you.]

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It is better to suffer wrong than to do it, and happier to be sometimes cheated than not to trust.—Johnson.

A WICKED PROPOSAL

ON THE November ballot the voter will find a proposal to fix the legal rate of interest in Oregon at 4 per cent.

You can by law fix the legal rate of interest at 4 per cent, but no law can be made that would force the man with money to lend it at 4 per cent. He would send his money to be loaned in other states where higher interest is obtainable.

If the proposed law were passed, evil days would come upon those who borrow. There would be no money to lend. Most money now loaned would be called in and be sent to places where higher interest rates are obtainable.

Many a small home owner who now has a loan at 6 or 7 per cent, would be called upon for the money, because the note could not be renewed at the present interest rate. The lender would demand payment in order to invest his money where it would yield a better return.

Nor could the borrower find the money elsewhere, because every lender, in order to get higher interest rates, would be sending his money into other states. The result would be that hundreds of small homes would go to the highest bidder under mortgage foreclosure.

And the same situation would confront every business that uses borrowed capital. Some would go bankrupt. Some would be forced out of business. Many would be compelled to limit their operations. A condition of stagnation and dry rot would settle over many a business enterprise, with the result that many workers would be thrown out of employment.

You can lead a horse to water but you cannot make him drink. You can make the interest rate 4 per cent. But while higher rates are obtainable elsewhere you cannot force a man with money to lend it at 4 per cent, or at the 5 per cent allowed by contract under the proposed law.

It would be a godsend if all interest rates could be low. But so long as higher rates prevail elsewhere you can no more legislate interest down to 4 per cent than you can by law force Mount Hood to turn a somersault.

If the measure is adopted it will spread ruin in Oregon.

When Mayor Baker says he wants a milk investigation that will investigate, and that accounting by accountants are necessary to the plan he is on sound ground. If we keep hammering on this milk problem it can be solved. And that is what the public wants.

EARWIGS

EVEN a pest may prove a moral. Thus pests gain a negative value. Otherwise they would represent destruction only. Earwigs are the illustration. Earwigs are said to be moving upon the shade trees of Piedmont, one of Portland's suburbs, with the same investing numbers and voraciousness of grasshoppers in Kansas and army worms in grain.

The earwig is but a tiny insect and he works havoc by numbers. He is so altogether unpleasant that, colloquially, an earwig is a person who whispers insinuations and gossip. The presence of the pest in Portland was shown first of all to be a matter of municipal concern. The generalship of the siege against them was passed from one municipal executive to another until the right man was found.

He speedily reported that the effort of the municipal administration alone would be futile. The cooperation of property owners in the district would be essential. Resident property owners, he added, were ready to do their utmost but non-resident property owners were characterized by their utter indifference. Whether the shade trees, the lawns and the flowers of the attractive suburb were destroyed or not brought no expression of concern from them.

Now the moral: An Indian girl had acquired ownership of a lot in Seattle during the administration of Mayor Ole Hanson. Then she went on a world wide tour with a circus. From a foreign country she wrote that she had decided to return, and if no one had taken and was using the lot she would like it back again. She could see no reason why she should continue to hold title to a lot she was not using if someone else had use for it.

It is the custom of non-resident owners of Portland property to let nature testify to their neglect in the form of weeds and bushes which furnish concealment for rubbish and lurking places for perverts. It quite often happens that the sheriff whistles for the taxes and oftener that the city cleans up such property without compensation. In fact, at one time when the city spent $15,000 mowing weeds and brush from vacant lots the cost fell entirely upon the city treasury because it was adjudged that the owners could not be held for it.

There ought to be a law clearly reading that vacant lots must be kept clear by their owners, that clearing if done by the city shall be paid for by the owner and that if he does not pay the lots may be sold to those who will use them, in order to meet the bill of costs.

Neglectful vacant lot owners might also be known as "earwigs."

"In this latter day farming has become an occupation for profit," said Senator Harding, in a speech in the senate. He added: "And I happen to know that under normal conditions dollar wheat makes it a very profitable occupation." The speech was on the adoption of the food administration bill, and an account of it is found on page 5269, Congressional Record. It was because the Republican farmers of Ohio fought him so hard in the primaries that Senator Harding failed to get a solid delegation from his own state to the late Chicago convention.

ON THE THRONE

FIVE rusty and crippled sea fighters were brought into New York harbor Monday. One limped in under her own steam. Four were towed.

The largest ship was stripped of electric equipment and all furniture. Boxes served as temporary furniture for her officers. She bore three scars, two where projectiles had found marks and one from a mine explosion. The other ships are described as rusted hulks.

The ships are humbled units of the former proud German navy. They are symbols of the defeated nation, brought to America for technical study before they are sent to their final resting place under the waves over which they once aspired to reign.

Scant regard was given the hulks as they were led up the Hudson. River craft allowed them to pass unnoticed. The cheers and whistles which they once called forth in German ports was replaced by an attitude of scorn. They were towed in, unhonored and unsung.

It is the reward of him who attempts to rule, unauthorized, over his fellow man. Whether it be a nation, a state, or an individual, none is all-powerful, none can subject other nations, other states or other individuals to unwilling servitude.

The scenes attending the entrance of the broken fleet in New York harbor Monday, signal that democracy is on the mountain top.

When Buyers' week attracts representatives from 12 states and from Canada and Alaska it qualifies as a first rank enterprise. Portlanders may very properly feel gratified to find their city a business center for the level headed business men of so large a territory.

PRISON AND GRAVE

A DEPUTY sheriff was shot dead and another man probably fatally injured in a duel with bandits at Hilomo, Minnesota, Monday. The weapons employed were revolvers.

Two clerks in a Cleveland jewelry store were probably fatally wounded in a battle with robbers Tuesday. The weapons employed were revolvers.

A porter was shot by a train robber Tuesday near Chicago. The bullet came from a revolver.

A woman was killed by a man in Portland Saturday and the man wounded by his own hand. He used a revolver.

Eighty-eight boys have committed suicide in the United States in the last six months. Almost invariably death came from a revolver.

They are all grim tales of the ready pistol. Always present for use in a fit of temper or in the commission of crime, the revolver is one of the most destructive agencies of the present day.

The highwayman always has one. It is his companion, his main support. Without it he could not effectively operate. It is his dependence.

The jealous lover has his gun. It is always near at hand. When the fit of temper seizes him his first thought is of the pistol. It is the work of seconds to secure the gun and wreak his revenge.

The man contemplating suicide usually thinks in terms of the gun. It is his dependence. Lying in wait for a fit of melancholia, the revolver is always ready to claim its victim.

The pistol is the friend of the gangster. His power is weighed by his weapon. The leader is on the throne because of his quick resort to his gun. The thought of the gang is in terms of the revolver and the action of the gang in terms of death.

The revolver is the aid of all those who use force to attain their end. The gun, manufactured under the sanction of governments, is doing an effective job of peopling penitentiaries and filling graves.

Fire Marshal Grenfell says Elton Court conformed structurally to the law. But it was a fire trap. There are other Portland buildings that conform structurally to the law. But they are also fire traps. What, in heaven's name, are fire laws for? Can the parsimony of a building owner outweigh human life? Have the charred victims of Elton Court died in vain?

FAITH IN THINGS SEEN

ONCE upon a time a seedy looking chap came to a city and said he had discovered a gold mine. He was willing, he said, to trade half of his right in the mine for financial help to develop it.

One after the other of the city's monied men had a chance to help develop the gold mine. The miner had samples of ore. He had convincing data and told a straight story.

But one man said he didn't like the way the miner trimmed his whiskers. Another averred that until the prospector quit saying "by gosh" he would be distrustful of any proposition he might have. A third averred that until the man from the mountains quit eating with his knife he would never believe in his ability to mine gold.

So it went. None of the reasons for failing to invest had any reference to the value of the gold mine.

Portland, in preparation for tourists, is in the same position. Mount Hood is uncapitalized, though it is a treasure house of beauty. Crater lake is uncapitalized, though it is internationally recognized as a world's wonder. Oregon's marble caves in Josephine county are uncapitalized and are scarcely accessible, although those who have seen them return with no comment less emphatic than "marvelous!"

No state in the Union has presented to possible visitors more fascinating word pictures of its scenic beauty than Oregon. No city has done less than Portland to make good on its promises.

The concessionaire at Crater lake has been ordered to discontinue by the director of national parks. Portland knew—has long known—that such drastic action was impending, but no group of Portlanders has accepted the opportunity to make Crater Lake's tourist inn a place of efficient management and comfort.

A hundred spots of inspiring grandeur may be found in the environs of Mount Hood, but the criticisms of pioneer tourist hotel builders around the mountain have not been supplemented by substantial attempt to make accommodations satisfactory.

There has been too much talk about disliking some one's personality and distrusting some one's ability, and too little grouping of the influences in Portland that alone can build places of pleasurable accommodation at the ends of our tourist trails.

After all the debate and promotion Portland lacks even so much as a tourist camp ground.

The man who finally took up with the gold miner's proposition made millions of dollars. He had to act on faith unseen. The capitalization along definite lines of Oregon's scenic resources will produce more than many gold mines. And it requires only a faith in things seen.

Deputy District Attorney T. H. McGuire has done effective work in behalf of the public at coroners' inquests following fatal automobile accidents. He should be kept there.

A BAD ROAD

THE route book of the American Automobile association designates the road on the west side of the Willamette river between Portland and Oregon City as a link of the main highway between Oregon and California.

The same road is an officially designated portion of the Pacific highway, the great motor thoroughfare of the Pacific coast from Canada to Mexico.

The same road taps a region superabundant in products of the soil for which Portland markets are eager.

The same road has scenic qualities enhanced by proximity to the beautiful Willamette.

The same road leads to Oswego, an important suburb, and to Oswego lake, the constant resort of thousands from the city whose means do not permit them to patronize expensive recreational spots possessed of no greater charm.

The same road is the worst and the roughest of the main highways entering Portland. Beyond the pavement near the city it becomes uncomfortable and even dangerous to travel. Three quarters of a mile of comparatively small cost reconstruction by the state highway commission would solve the vexatious problem of accessibility between Portland and Oswego. South of Oswego the authorities of Clackamas county have established a new grade, which, when completed, will soothe the tempers and lessen the losses of travelers so unfamiliar with local conditions that they must rely upon guide books for choice of routes.

How can continuance of the condition be justified?

NOT ENOUGH CARS TO MOVE CROPS

By Carl Smith, Washington Staff Correspondent of The Journal

Washington, Aug. 11.—Grain growers and dealers, business men and public utility commissioners of the great grain belt, alarmed over the small number of cars which they say is available for moving a crop of 650,000,000 bushels of wheat in the four states of North and South Dakota, Minnesota and Montana, are bombarding the interstate commerce commission with appeals for cars.

A preliminary meeting was held the other day with Chairman Clark of the interstate commerce commission, the delegation comprising Congressmen Anderson and Newton of Minnesota and Young of North Dakota and three state utility commissioners from the two Dakotas. They asked for a formal hearing the coming week, at which a large delegation is promised. The particular request is for cars to be supplied the Great Northern, Northern Pacific and "Soo" lines. The Pacific Northwest will be benefited by whatever is gained, members of the delegation say, because the cars will be turned over to the railroad systems, and the distribution will be made by the railroads themselves, wherever their lines extend. "This call for cars is to fill the bread basket of the nation," said Congressman Young. "The railroads of the four great grain states have on their lines about 60 per cent of the number of cars they own, and the cars must come in, if the wheat goes out. There is storage capacity for perhaps 225,000,000 bushels, and we will have 425,000,000 bushels to move by rail within a short period of time."

* * *

One high official of the interstate commerce commission, who has much to do with car service matters, was not enthusiastic when told of the plans of the delegation.

"We are already well informed," he said. "These people might better save their time and money and write us a statement of what they have to suggest. I doubt whether they can tell anything new about the conditions. We are sending cars to take care of this movement as fast as we can, and cars are already pouring into Chicago faster than they can be moved out of there."

The grain men, flanked by business men and bankers, are coming to tell their story just the same, and assert that they have the facts to impress the commission with the need of prompt and energetic action.

Letters From the People

[Communications sent to The Journal for publication in this department should be written on only one side of the paper, should not exceed 300 words in length and must be signed by the writer, whose mail address in full must accompany the contribution.]

THE INCONSISTENT ONE

Portland, July 29.—To the Editor of The Journal—To judge from what the Oregonian says about Cox and the Democratic platform one would think it was supporting Harding for president, and what he stands for. One would conclude that it really desired to see Harding elected. But to judge from what it says about what Harding will do with the league covenant and peace treaty in case of his election we are in doubt as to its sincerity. It says if Harding is elected he will, no doubt, submit the peace treaty and league covenant to the senate, and after proper reservations are annexed thereto the same will be ratified. By this statement the Oregonian has made of Harding a trickster and mere word-monger, whose statements are unworthy of credence; because Harding, in his speech of acceptance, hewed to the line of absolute rejection of the league covenant so close as to receive the congratulations of Senator Johnson. If Harding has in his mind to do as the Oregonian indicates in an editorial of July 28, Harding deliberately falsifies his position in his speech of acceptance; or else the Oregonian is laboring under a delusion, and seeks to carry with it its deluded readers.

The truth is that the Oregonian started out favorable to the covenant of the League of Nations as the same was submitted to the senate a year ago. It supported Mr. Taft in Taft's idea that the same really did not require any interpretations other than clarifying words in some respects, and when the senate, in November, 1919, adopted the Lodge reservations, in an editorial criticising the senate's action it stated that Article X of the covenant "is the big stick of the league, but the senate has whittled it down to a fragile switch." The Oregonian was evidently disgusted then with the senate's action, and now it seems to desire that its readers believe that Harding does not mean what he says in his speech of acceptance.

B. F. Wilson.

COOLIDGE CONTRADICTIONS

Portland, July 31.—To the Editor of The Journal—What sort of bird has the G. O. P. given us for the vice presidency? He seems to be nimble in grand and lofty tumbling and deals soft soap to the rich and poor with equal amiability. In his speech of acceptance he says: "The mounting prices of all sorts of commodities have put a well nigh unbearable burden on every home. Much of this is beyond relief from law."

This is comforting to the profiteer, but the poor and downtrodden are elated in the next sentence: "But the forces of the government can, and must, afford a remedy." So you can, and you can't. He catches the dear people "a-going and a-coming." The profiteer is next eased in his soul when he says, "The great breeder of public and private extravagence, the excess profits tax, should be revised and recourse had to a customs tax on imports." As that tax is promptly added to the bill of the domestic buyer, it is sad for the citizen, but saves "the malefactor of great wealth," as Roosevelt had it.

The hordes of profiteers are next elated to read: "There has been profiteering. It should be punished, because it is wrong, but it is idle to look to such action for relief." Some 16 months of Republican control in congress establishes that postulate. Next we find him declaring that our difficulties are "caused by scarcity of material and absence of money," and then in the next sentence he declares "the government must reduce the amount of money as fast as possible."

This is gleeful advice for the banker, as the smaller the volume of money the higher the rate of interest, and proportionate profiteering greatly aided in every avenue of business where extortion thrives on money wants.

Taken all in all, it may be possible Coolidge's effort to hold the profiteers in line, with a sop for the farmer, may prevail.

I have not adverted to several other features of like vulnerability but this is enough for this time.

Charles P. Church.

GARFIELD ALSO A SENATOR

Portland, Aug. 2.—To the Editor of The Journal—The Oregonian has on different occasions made the statement that Candidate Harding is the first United States senator to receive the nomination for president.

This is not true. General James A. Garfield was elected to the United States senate by the Ohio state legislature on January 14, 1880.

It is needless to state that later he was elected president.

P. A. Linscott.

THE LAND QUESTION

Umatilla, July 28.—To the Editor of The Journal—Does the public realize there are but two ways of changing the land system and the tax system, and that these systems are going to be changed all over the world and in a very short time? And these ways are either by the Russian soviet route or by the single tax route. We have an opportunity to decide this question at the coming election. Those who do not believe it is of a serious nature have the example before them of Warsaw, in Poland, changing its form of government at the command of the Russian army, said to be the strongest in the world. At the recent Farmer-Labor presidential convention at Chicago the greatest of all demonstrations was the cheer given the Russian soviet government: "Long live the Bolshevik!"

The labor question is the land question. All courts for settling labor disputes such as those established in Kansas, all boards of labor adjustment, all arbitration, mediation or labor boards, and all industrial courts which are likely to come into common use in the future administration, are superficial methods and practices, for labor is not free, and these are intended to deal with an unnatural condition of mankind, and unrest and dissatisfaction will obtain until this unnatural condition has been removed.

The League of Women Voters has the same superficial aims, dealing with slave women, in an attempt to relieve them, making compulsory regulations. If women were free they would choose their hours of work and protect themselves from excessive hours and unhealthy working conditions.

The Inter-Church movement, according to a report in The Journal of July 28, has also launched out on the same mission. After giving a thorough and sympathetic report of the coal strike in 1919, taking sides in favor of the strikers, it gives as its remedy shorter hours, more intelligence, more Americanism and recognition of the right to join communities—all well meaning but, like the others, treating the disease without removing the cause.

Amos Pinchot says, "All social reforms are wasted effort unless the land question is solved. This is a truism to intelligent persons the world over."

Why is labor not free? Because the earth, the sole source of sustenance, is not free. It can be made free by taking ground rent in taxation.

Christina H. Mock.

Olden Oregon

Greenbacks Were Not Received in Payment of State Taxes.

In 1863 when greenbacks were worth 40 cents on the dollar, Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Lane, Benton and Clatsop counties tendered their state tax in greenbacks. The state treasurer refused the tender. Subsequently in a suit between Lane county and the state, Judge Boise held that the act of congress authorizing the issue of treasury notes did not make them a legal tender for state taxes and did not affect the law of the state requiring state taxes to be paid in coin. On the other hand Judge Stratton, in an action between private parties, decided that the law of congress of 1862 was unconstitutional. This law made treasury notes a legal tender for all debts and demands, which included the salaries of judges, which were paid from the state treasury.

Curious Bits of Information for the Curious

Gleaned From Curious Places

"Pluck a chicken and you have a reptile." This remark of an anatomist was meant to imply that the only very important difference between a reptile and a bird lay in the fact that the former had scales, whereas the latter is feathered. But feathers and scales are but modifications of the same thing. The earliest birds on the earth were very reptile-like and had teeth. Indeed, there seems to be no doubt of the fact that all modern birds are originally descended from reptiles, which may have started to acquire power of flight by jumping from bough to bough of trees.

Portland

By a Reader of The Journal.

Portland, set mid scenic bowers,
Softly drenched with misty showers,
Garlanded with green and flowers.
Come to Portland, and say "Ours"—
Ours, the land where Mount Hood towers!
Cheery, friendly Portland.

Portland, kindly neighbor, friend!
Snow-caps, flowers without end,
Climate, commerce, work and cheer—
All man needs he may find here!

"ON TO WARSAW!"

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COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Reverses are often the best chapters in our education.

* * *

Some men would pay bachelor tax rather than become benedicts.

* * *

A woman with a "mission" has no business with a husband.

* * *

It is better to take some things for granted than to start an investigation.

* * *

The notion that money is the main thing seems to have originated in practical politics.

SIDELIGHTS

A visitor in Bend who recently drank some of the sulphur spring water at East lake says that it would cost a million dollars in advertising alone to get the public to drink the water. This was after he had tasted it.—Bend Press.

* * *

The editor of the Sentinel wants to vote for the League of Nations as hard as he can, and he decidedly wants to vote for Candidate Harding for president. How can he do both, is the problem he hasn't yet been able to solve.—Coquille Valley Sentinel.

MORE OR LESS PERSONAL

Random Observations About Town

Five days at the beach was sufficient vacation for Commissioner C. A. Bigelow, although he started out a week ago last Saturday with the intention of remaining two weeks. Bigelow grew restive for his desk at the city hall, and so he returned to Portland for the council meeting Saturday. He may go away again next month for a fishing trip along the headwaters of the Willamette.

* * *

"Pat" Gallagher, debonair attorney and elocutionist from Ontario, Or., is in town again. This time "Pat" is getting at the inside of the political affairs of the day through visitation to the various campaign headquarters. Incidentally, Gallagher is out for members in the Harding-Coolidge club and promises to be very active in that line over Eastern Oregon way between now and next November.

* * *

George L. Loomis of Omaha, collector of internal revenue for Nebraska, is in the city visiting his son, F. A. Loomis of The Journal's mechanical department. Loomis has not been in Portland since the Lewis and Clark fair, when he was one of the commissioners in charge of the Nebraska exhibit. One of the trips he is looking forward to is a visit to the Forestry building, the only remaining fair structure yet standing. What with collecting the income tax and helping round up bootleggers under national prohibition, the Nebraska collector found it necessary to take a month off. He will remain here until time to get back to Omaha by September 1.

* * *

M. L. Merritt, forest examiner in charge of trail construction, and Robert H. Weidman of the research division of the forest management department, are leaving Wednesday for a three weeks' trip through the Rainier national forest. They will motor to Tacoma, where they will be met by Supervisor G. F. Allen, who will accompany them through the forest.

OBSERVATIONS AND IMPRESSIONS OF THE JOURNAL MAN

By Fred Lockley

Mrs. Ben W. Olcott and I were talking about politics recently. Mrs. Olcott should be able to talk with authority on political matters for she has lived in Salem all her life where the very atmosphere is saturated with politics. Moreover her husband is governor of Oregon and her sister's husband, ex-Governor Oswald West, is "some politician."

* * *

"Tell me," I said, "what you think of politics." "I try at all times to be a perfect lady," said Mrs. Olcott, "consequently I cannot tell you what I think of politics. I have come to the conclusion, however, that the disease is very contagious. Most anybody can catch it. I believe its ravages are spread in various ways. People talk about being bitten by the political bug and I have almost concluded there must be some invisible form of bug whose bite does carry the contagion, for often the most estimable and highly respected people suddenly develop the disease. Some scientist should discover a preventive just as we vaccinate against smallpox. I really believe very few men are really immune from the ravages of the dread malady."

* * *

Possibly Mrs. Olcott is right. It is a fact that most men at some time during their life break out with a case of office-seeking just as they break out at a more youthful age with whooping cough and measles. For confirmation of this statement look over the record of the political activities of such men as Asahel Bush, J. W. Nesmith, M. P. Deady, Jesse Applegate, George H. Williams, George Chamberlain, George Baker and a countless host of other prominent Oregonians. In volume 1, No. 1 of the Oregon Spectator, the first newspaper to be issued in the Oregon country, which made its first appearance on February 5, 1846, W. G. T'Vault, its editor, says: "For the past 20 years politics have been the order of the day * * * but having but one interest to represent, and that interest the welfare of Oregon * * * it would be a bad policy to break open old wounds and in doing so to create new ones, by discussing politics in the columns of the Spectator—notwithstanding we are now, as we have always been and ever shall be, a Democrat of the Jefferson school." Editor T'Vault lasted but two months, for he could not refrain from discussing politics. H. A. G. Lee, the next editor, announced that he would discuss politics, for "Politics, as we understand the term, means the science of government and not the effervescence of fermenting partyism or the noisy froth of spouting demogogues," he explains.

* * *

We take our politics very quietly nowadays compared to the early days of Oregon political history. If you want to know how to skin a man alive just read some of the political articles in Oregon's territorial days or even later when Oregon was represented by a star on our national flag. Here is just one sentence typical of early day politics: "Ye mercenary hounds, ye bullying disunionists, ye time-serving dough faces, we heed not the cowardly threats of one or the servile whinings of the other."

It is interesting to read the debates of the Oregon politicians and statesmen of half a century ago. The sting to many of the epithets is lost, for we of today do not know the meaning of terms of odium and opprobrium hurled at each other in the days when they stung like a whip lash and caused fist fights and duels—what do we of today know about carpetbaggers or copperheads, dough faces of half breeds, lily whites or loco-focos, mugwumps, or repudiators, silver grays and Stalwarts, yet in their day these terms designated minor political factions of our country.

Harding and Cox do not have to have hides like a hippopotamus to go through a political campaign. For with the torch light processions and the free drinks, we have discarded the old time rough and tumble methods of campaigning. How many political parties can you name, and what do you know of the history of their birth, growth and decline?

* * *

You know all about the birth and history of the Republican, Democratic, Socialist, Populist and Bull Moose parties, but what do you know about the Tories and Patriots, the Federalists, and Anti-federalists? The Federalists were for a strong central government. Hamilton, Adams and Joy, the leaders of the Federalist party, were opposed to the Anti-federals under leadership of Thomas Jefferson, who called the party of which he was the leader, the Democratic party. Later it became known as the Democratic-Republican party — then for thirty years it dropped the term Democratic and was known as the Republican party—still later it changed back to its original title and became the Democratic party. In 1834 the National Republicans took the name of Whigs. In 1839 the Liberty party was born and in 1844 was merged with the Free Soil party. The present Republican party was organized in 1854.

In 1860 there were four parties in the field—Abraham Lincoln, the Republican candidate received a popular vote of 1,866,352; Stephen A. Douglas, the Democratic candidate, 1,375,157 votes; John C. Breckenridge, the Pro-slavery candidate, 845,763, and John Bell, the Constitutional Union candidate, 589,581 votes.

* * *

Mark Twain says it is difference of opinion that makes a horse race interesting, and so long as men differ in opinion, politics will continue to interest us. A lack of interest in politics is an indicaton of poor citizenship, for it is through the intelligent use of the ballot that we can make orderly progress.

The Oregon Country

Northwest Happenings in Brief Form for the Busy Reader.

OREGON NOTES

Three road signs have been set up in Linn county pointing the way to Albany and its tourist park.

A carelessly discarded cigarette was probably the cause of the burning of 25 feet of sidewalk at Bend.

The price to be paid hop pickers has been fixed by growers in the vicinity of Independence at 70 cents a box.

Owing to the uncertainty of the fuel oil supply, Bend mills are considering the possibility of using electric power.

The Athena wheat crop is averaging from 35 to 45 bushels an acre. Now and then there is mention of 50 bushels.

The Sheep creek fire in the Umatilla national forest is reported to be under control. It has burned over about 80 acres.

Secretary Schmitt of the Linn county fair board has appealed to the churches of Albany to prepare lunchrooms on the fair grounds.

Engineer Lewis reports that it would be altogether feasible to include Shutler flat in the proposed John Day irrigation project.

Automobiles going to Fish and Clear lakes over the Santiam road are experiencing much grief after they leave Cascadia station.

The Dallas council has passed an ordinance prohibiting the blocking of street crossings by railroad trains for a longer period than 10 minutes.

The Woodburn milling company has made improvements at the flouring mill and is still adding to the equipment and making changes to meet a big run.

Petitions to the city council asking that portions of Jefferson and Adams streets be hard surfaced are being circulated among Athena property owners.

Prices for threshing in Lane county have been fixed as follows: For standard two-bushel sacks, 26 cents for oats, 28 cents for barley and 30 cents for wheat.

The cornerstone of the new Elks' temple at Pendleton was laid Sunday with a brief ceremony. The formal dedication of the temple will probably occur late in October.

A movement has been inaugurated in Deschutes county looking to the consolidation of the Plainview Irrigation company, the Cloverdale company and the McAllister irrigation districts with Squaw creek district.

WASHINGTON

It is announced that, beginning September 1, rents will be increased by Spokane landlords.

An organization to be known as the "Yanks" has been formed at Yakima by war veterans with the object of participating in election campaigns.

Several prominent citizens of Cashmere have been fined for starting a forest fire in Judge canyon. They built a smudge to smoke bees out of a tree.

Fire Chief Stetson of Seattle has requested the city council to purchase a submariner from the United States government and remodel it into a fireboat.

Directors of the Centralia Chamber of Commerce have appropriated $25 as a special premium for the poultry department of the 1920 Southwest Washington fair.

The Seattle Chamber of Commerce will protest against the designation of San Francisco as regional headquarters for the administration of water resources.

If favorable action is taken by the Grays Harbor Railway & Light company on a petition for the use of land, Aberdeen and Hoquiam will have a joint tourist camp.

Both growers and shippers are said to be satisfied with the state inspection of vegetables which is being enforced at Yakima reservation shipping points for the first time.

The Libby, McNeil & Libby cannery at Yakima has canned 759 tons of cherries this season. This is the largest quantity ever canned in the United States by a single cannery.

IDAHO

Manager Darwin of the Indian Cache ranch near Lewiston has awarded a contract for the construction of a large cold storage warehouse for apples.

According to U. S. Marshal Jones, crops on the Idaho Irrigation company's tract, including land around Gooding and Richfield, are drying up from lack of water.

Water filings received by the state department of reclamation call for a plan to supply the headwaters of Big Wood river from Alturas lake and tributaries by tunneling through Galena summit.

Investigation of the possibilities of a north and south railroad through Idaho from New Meadows to Grangeville will begin this week by Raymond L. Given, attorney of the public utilities commission, and Leonard Way, rate expert for New Meadows.

Uncle Jeff Snow Says:

Nat Heffelfinger allus coudn't learn to read English, but lately he's learned to read "no gas" 'thout gittin' outer his flivver. Some people thinks they own a piece of land, but if they don't pay taxes to the State of Oregon ss., U. S. A., they find out they was jist tenants all the time.

The Culture of the Rose Would Give Both Financial and Aesthetic Profit.

(Continued From Tuesday).

Nature has done so much to make Portland and its environs a rose garden and there is so much delight and profit in either the amateur or professional culture of roses that every argument seems to support a proposition that the growing of roses should be one of the special subjects taught in the schools of Portland. From the financial side, a market for millions of dollars' worth of roses annually could be found for the product of commercial rose gardens in Western Oregon. All the sales of rose plants and cut roses in Portland annually, despite the fact that this city is per capita the largest consumer of the beautiful blossoms in the United States, probably do not exceed $500,000. Yet we have the rare advertising furnished every year by the Rose Festival and the Rose Show to introduce everywhere Portland roses with the royal welcome they deserve, for, if the rose is the queen of flowers, the Portland rose is the queen of queens.

From the aesthetic point of view there is a pleasure to be found in knowing the varieties of roses which enhances the perfection of their form and the entrancement of their perfume. Just as the great Oregon out of doors becomes more alluring and friendly when one has learned the names of trees and shrubs and can differentiate between, we will say, the Chinquapin and the Woolly Manzanita, so roses assume an individuality that is tantamount to personality when one has learned to know Madame La France from Caroline Testout, can repeat at least a few of the names of the delicate tea roses and can tell the visitor to the city that the beautiful climbers are in nearly every instance specimens of the Dorothy Perkins. Portland had last June under Journal auspices at the suggestion of the Portland Rose society, a children's rose show. Many of the little folks evinced the liveliest interest. They brought beautiful blossoms which in every way compared favorably with the exhibits of grown up folks. This interest could be increased. And children who learn to grow roses around the home will in years to come keep home as happy as the roses.