



AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

Published every afternoon (except Sunday) at Pendleton, Oregon, by the EAST OREGONIAN PUBLISHING COMPANY.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Daily, one year by mail \$3.00
Daily, six months by mail 1.75
Daily, three months by mail 1.25
Daily, one month by mail .50
Daily, per month by carrier .65
Weekly, one year by mail 1.50
Weekly, six months by mail .75
Weekly, four months by mail .50
Semi-Weekly, one year by mail 2.00
Semi-Weekly, six months by mail 1.00
Semi-Weekly, three months by mail .50

Member Scripps-McRae News Association.

The East Oregonian is on sale at B. R. Rich's News Stands at Hotel Portland and Hotel Perkins, Portland, Oregon.

San Francisco Bureau, 408 Fourth St. Chicago Bureau, 909 Security Building. Washington, D. C. Bureau, 501 14th St. N. W.

Telephone, Main 11.

Entered at Pendleton postoffice as second-class matter.



To keep my health!
To do my work!
To live!
To see to it I grow and gain and give!
Never to look behind me for an hour;
To wait in weakness and to walk in power;
But always fronting forward to the light;
Always and always facing toward the right;
Robbed, starved, defeated, fallen, wide astray—
Oh, with what strength I have!
Back to the way!
—Charlotte Perkins Gilman.

The average cost of maintaining the office of county assessor in Umatilla county from 1895 to 1902 was \$5,063.75 per year. In 1903, the first year of Mr. Strain's term, the cost of maintaining the office is \$4,142, or a saving of \$1,843.50 for the two years of his term to the taxpayers.

The people of the east end of Umatilla county are entitled to the county commissioner this year. That portion of the county pays a large proportion of the taxes. Improvements are badly needed in many places and they should have representation in the county court.

According to the Morning Tribune, a gas plant is a sweet, odoriferous, aromatic, delicious, fascinating thing to have in a residence district. Its inviting fragrance should cause prices of the homes in the vicinity to increase. The residents of the electric light plant district do not know that they are talking about, when they object to the installation of a gas plant under the very eaves of their homes.

Situated as she is in the heart of the arid district of Oregon, Umatilla county must send some practical irrigators to the next legislature. This is an age of utility and not of ornamentation. The government stands back, because the laws of Oregon will not admit of the advance methods of irrigation being instituted by the national government.

The political situation in Missouri this year is one of the most unique in the United States. All classes of moral citizens are united on Joseph W. Folk, the energetic district attorney of St. Louis, for governor. He has earned the admiration and es-

teem of the state by his fearless prosecution of the St. Louis hoodlums, in spite of the political machines. Republicans will vote for him for governor by the thousands, according to the state papers of Missouri. In appreciation of this stand for Folk, who is a democrat, the democrats, it is declared, will return the compliment by sending Roosevelt electors from Missouri to Washington, in November. Missouri is determined to be rid of the hoodlums, no matter what the cost, and the tension of public sentiment may be imagined, in a state with Missouri's pronounced views, by the emergency that would drive republicans to vote for a democratic governor, or that would induce democrats to vote for republican electors, in order to have co-operation in cleansing out their filthy cesspools or corruption.

"No matter where you have been nor where you are going, you are now in the best country you may ever expect to visit." These are the words of G. W. Rigby to an old friend from Kansas, as the O. R. & N. train stopped at Athena, yesterday morning. Taking a brief survey of Athena, it is easy to agree with the statement, and if anything, make it even stronger. This little city of 1,000 people in the heart of the wheat belt of Umatilla county, has made more substantial progress during the past two years than any other district in the West, and statistics bear out the statement. In that time Athena has spent \$4,000 on crushed rock streets and is now making further expenditure of \$5,000 for the same purpose. In the past year she has dedicated two of the most magnificent church buildings in the entire Northwest, at a combined cost of \$25,000, every cent paid or pledged, ready for payment when due. This means a total expenditure in the past two years, or since the first street improvement was made, for public and religious benefits, of over \$35 per capita for each man, woman and child in the town. There is no record to compare to it in the Northwest.

C. E. S. Wood, the brilliant and erudite lawyer of Portland, hits the nail on the head in the Pacific Monthly of May, on the Smoot case, when he says: "The attack on Smoot was for polygamy, when he himself is not a polygamist; he is simply a Mormon. But suppose he is a polygamist, instead of secreting his wives, mistresses or concubines, and branding them with infamy, Smoot treats them as his wives and gives them his name. Instead of branding his children with illegitimacy, he gives them his name and his property. Instead of driving a woman to crime, perhaps, he makes her feel unashamed. Now, which is the better, Smoot with his honesty that supports and loves his several wives or the senator with the secret mistress and the skulking illegitimate children dodging in the dark corners of society, with the brand of hell upon them? If Smoot is to be ejected by outraged society, why not eject the others? Is it only because Smoot is open and the others ostensibly hidden, as the ostrich buries its head in the sand? Is secrecy, then, better than openness? There is a deal of honest and sincere effort on the part of good people to make others good by force, according to the views of the good ones, and also there is a good deal of downright hypocrisy in the world, against which I must raise my voice."

THE ISLE OF UNREST.

"San Domingo, theoretically a republic," writes William Thorp in the May World's Work, "covers two-thirds of the largest and richest island in the West Indies, except Cuba. Its population can only be guessed at, for the official figures are untrustworthy. There are, probably, 500,000 negroes and mulattoes scattered over the 18,000 square miles. They are often half-starved and always living from hand to mouth, for there is little incentive to honest industry when a party of soldiers may come along at any moment and eat up the fruit of a man's labor. The country could easily support 5,000,000 people in prosperity and comfort. But it has been at war, with hardly any considerable intermission, for about a hundred years. There is no other country in the world, not even Venezuela, with such a record."

The disparity in numbers between women is even greater in the country villages than in the cities, for the men are apt to flock to the towns or to be marched off to fight by one of the numerous guerilla bands. Polygamy results in the country districts.

A peasant usually has four or five wives, who live in common and work for him and the children. Yet the population does not increase. That is the most striking testimony to the condition of the country. The men are steadily thinned down by the wars, and three-fourths

of the children die in infancy, owing to the ignorance of their mothers and the lack of medical care. I have seen babies a few months old given raw plantain to eat when they cried. I have known babies, too, to be killed by government soldiers, before the eyes of their mothers, because their fathers were fighting in the ranks of the revolutionists. Fifteen women and children were slain in cold blood in the town of San Pedro de Macoris, an important seaport, in 1900, with the deliberate purpose of deterring other men from joining the revolutionists.

TO SAVE RIVER BANKS.

The department of agriculture has issued the following suggestions to farmers who live on river courses that destroy valuable land by washing and caving in each year. The bulletin says in part:

"At many places along the streams the flood has left perpendicular banks of soft soil that are being constantly undermined by the current, causing the land to cave into the river from time to time. It is very important that such places be protected, for every such caving bank is a menace to all the land lying back of it in the valley."

"In such a valley, where the bed of the stream does not come within scores of feet of bed rock, the use of stone structures for protecting the river banks is very expensive, and at the same time ineffective. The most successful method of protecting a soft alluvial river bank is to make it sloping instead of perpendicular, and to keep it covered with vegetation."

"The willow is admirably adapted to holding alluvial soil in place. It is far more serviceable for this purpose than walls of masonry, and the facility with which it reproduces itself by seed, suckers, sprouts and cuttings, both natural and artificial, makes its use very simple and inexpensive."

"The great difficulty with planting any sort of tree on perpendicular banks is that the caving of the soil is so rapid that the planted tree has no opportunity to get a start before it is undermined and precipitated into the river. An excellent scheme has been proposed by Mr. E. Bayles of Linwood, Kan.

"The plan is as follows: Green willow poles 18 to 20 feet long are secured in the spring, just after the ice goes out of the stream. These poles are laid on the ground near the bank two feet apart, with their butts all pointing toward the river. Woven fence wire is then stretched along over the poles and stapled fast to each one. Sections of wire about 100 feet long can be handled to best advantage."

"After the wire has been securely fastened to the poles, they are all pushed over the bank together, so that the butts of the poles will fall and sink into the soft mud at the water's edge. As the bank caves off some of the falling soil will lodge on the wire, partially burying and weighting down the poles, which will consequently strike root and grow."

SOCIALISM THAT HURTS.

The kind of socialism that does not alarm either the republican leaders or bogus democrats is the socialism for private profit which the trusts have developed—the socialism that, with the help of the tariff and railroad discrimination and the connivance of the executive branch of the government, defies the laws and robs the people.

There is no long hair or beer drinking about that sort of socialism, but it owns the national works and will continue to own them until the people get a square chance at it with the ballot.—San Francisco Examiner.

Mrs. Clara Cooley, of Louisville, Ky., drowned her baby, declaring that the Lord compelled her to do it, even as Abraham offered his son as a sacrifice.

\$500 Reward For Women Who Cannot Be Cured. Image of a woman in a hat and dress.

Backed up by over a third of a century of remarkable and uniform cures, a record such as no other remedy for the diseases and weaknesses peculiar to women ever attained, the proprietors of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription now feel fully warranted in offering to pay \$500 in legal money of the United States, for any case of Leucorrhoea, Female Weakness, Prolapsus, or Falling of Womb which they cannot cure. All they ask is a fair and reasonable trial of their means of cure.

How to Judge Beer. POINTS OF EXCELLENCE. BRILLIANCY, CLEAN TASTE, SOLID CREAMY FOAM, PURITY, FLAVOR. A. B. C. THE AMERICAN BREWING CO. ST. LOUIS, U. S. A. GEO. DARVEAU, WHOLESALE DEALER. GEORGE DARVEAU, WHOLESALE DEALER.

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