East Oregonian

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Official City and County Paper.

Bloom on the peach tree hasn't
come to stay,
But Spring must like the winter, when she spends a
shiny day.

Come to rest awhile—
Make the meadows smile;
Trim her dress with violets, an'
roam around in style.

The woodlands—they are thankful; the garden in the
dew
Promises a flower to your
sweetheart an' to you.

Spring, so sweet an' fair—
Love her everywhere;
A wreath o' violets in her hand
—a red rose in her hair.
—Frank L. Stanton in Atlanta Constitution.

ONE MILLION DOLLARS.

If building and construction work now in sight for the coming year is carried out Pendleton will break all previous records along this line. A cool million dollars will be expended for such work during the next 12 months. Here is the list.

Branch asylum	$500,000
Gravity water system	200,000
New High school	100,000
Federal building	100,000
Catholic church	50,000
Main street bridge	30,000
Sewer extensions	20,000
Total	$1,000,000

Nor is this all the work that will be done by any means. The list does not include the work upon the Round-up grounds. It does not include any street work at all and much street work there assuredly will be. Within a short time the people will be asked to vote upon a charter change that will be drafted with a view to making more street improvement possible. When that amendment is adopted, as it doubtless will be, Pendleton will be in position to give the people all the street improving they desire. Do they need any?

The million dollar list includes no private building operations that may be carried on during the summer. Nor does it include any railroad work that will be done in this section, such as the Coyote-Echo cutoff which in itself will cost almost a million dollars.

There will be nothing to it. If all goes well Pendleton 's going to have the busiest year it has ever experienced. With a million dollars worth of work on hand local people may well expect a season of activity and prosperity.

Nor will the good times end when the work is done. The branch asylum will be a continuous asset to the city. So will the new water system, the new high school and other betterments. Because of those betterments more people will come here to reside and those who are already here will become more contented with their lot. We will put an end to knocking and pessimism and bring on an era of optimism and advancement.

"Let'r buck."

TOO HIGHLY HONORED.

The East Oregonian has been too highly honored. Seemingly this paper has been given entire credit for the hard and earnest work that was done a year ago towards getting a traction system for Pendleton and its tributary territory. That is more than we deserve.

For the traction movement this paper fought long and consistently it is true. Yet the East Oregonian only did its duty in co-operating with many loyal and public spirited men who saw a chance to promote the welfare of Pendleton and the prosperity of its people and strove valiantly to do so.

Conspicuous among the leaders in the traction movement were Dr. C. J. Smith and Judge James A. Fee. They are public spirited men and leaders of unquestioned ability and integrity. The East Oregonian was glad to work with them for a traction system and is willing to be with them again any time in support of any cause that looks to the advancement of this little city. Mayor Murphy, W. L. Thompson, R. Alexander, Leon Cohen, Will Moore and about 25 or 30 other good men were also in the brigade that worked night and day for many weeks, hoping thereby to place Pendleton upon the path to growth and prosperity. It was a long hard uphill fight waged against the sneers and scoffs of pessimists and against the subtle obstructions of interests that opposed the move for selfish reasons.

But thanks to the determined work of the committeemen and to the loyal and progressive spirit of the people of this city the fight—as far as Pendleton was concerned—was won. Pendleton raised the money that was asked for by the traction company and the fact that the lines have not been built is due to no fault of our people.

As far as the promotor, Mr. Fitzgerald, is concerned it is quite well known that the committee did not rely upon mere assurances from him. The basis of the traction movement was the fact that wealthy and influential Walla Walla men had offered to build the traction system if given proper support. Those people were in earnest and agreed to sign a bond to develop their electric power and build their lines before collecting any local money. They expended several thousand dollars in their preliminary work.

As to why the traction system was not built this paper will not undertake to say. The East Oregonian was concerned with the Pendleton end of the bargain and is still proud of the fact that this city met the issue properly—though perhaps not as willingly or as speedily as it should. Furthermore this paper is unwilling to believe that all that work was in vain. Good came from that work and more will follow.

This is written to give credit where it is due. Not to answer the silly attempt to slur this paper for its part in the traction movement. The slur came from such a source that it would be a waste of time to notice it. The East Oregonian merely wishes to say that with reference to a traction system this paper stands now exactly where it stood a year ago. A traction system is desired because it would be a great boon to Pendleton. If ever in the future a traction system is in reach of this city the East Oregonian will give its support to securing such an improvement. It will do this regardless of the sneers of tightwads and pessimists, in spite of protests from interested sources and regardless of any journalistic pups that may get in the way.

IT WAS A GOOD JOB.

Governor West is being criticised for activity in connection with certain legislative measures. Most of the roar comes directly or indirectly from the fact that the governor made the legislature come to time and pass the bill to place the state printer upon a flat salary.

But the end in view justified and in fact demanded the very course that the governor pursued. For years the state printer's office has been a graft that has "smelled to heaven." Through the fee system that has been in effect the people of this state have been deliberately robbed of hundreds of thousands of dollars. At times the state printer has made more money out of his office than does the president of the United States from his high position. For years it has been recognized that the printer should be placed upon a flat salary or else the work let by contract. But the money the printer has made has helped perpetuate the graft.

It took Governor West, with his characteristic energy and nerve, to force through this reform which politicians have been promising since time immortal. He did a good job and the people of the state will uphold him in his course even though some legislators did not like the whip he used.

If you want to have some sport hunt up a chronic pessimist, tell him about the million dollars worth of work to be done here this year and hear him grunt.

First upon the program comes the new high school. It is needed and there should not be a dissenting vote against the bond issue. Perhaps there wont be.

The city now has title to the Round-up brounds and those who feared Mr. Matlock would regain the tract may cease their worry.

FOR A NEW THEATER.

Pendleton, Ore., March 1, 1911.
Editor East Oregon:

I wish to call your earnest attention to the urgent need of a new theater building in Pendleton. However, it is almost unnecessary to mention this fact as the inadequacy of the old house is well known. The presentation of first class scenic productions on the present local stage is an utter impossibility, that is the sole reason Pendleton is losing such attractions as James T. Powers in "Havana," "The Midnight Sons," Blanch Ring in "The Yankee Girl," "Polly of the Circus," "A Man's World,' "The Man on the Box,' "Madam Sherry," "A Gentleman from Mississippi," "Honeymoon Trail," etc. That also is the reason why Pendleton theatergoers journey to Walla Walla to see such shows that could be enjoyed at home, had we a cosy, comfortable theater of proper dimensions.

As a representative of the Northwestern Theatrical association, I feel it my duty to that association, the New York Managers' Producing association and the theater-going public of Pendleton to appeal to such citizens that have the social, as well as the commercial interests of our city at heart. It is true that many of our citizens who are financially able to erect a new theater are under the impression that it will cost from $30,000 to $40,000 for such a building, and that it would be a losing game. I agree with them that a $40,000 theater would be a losing game, for I do not think Pendleton could pay a reasonable interest on the investment of that amount for theatrical purposes. But I do know that a re-inforced concrete theater building of proper dimensions with a seating capacity of not less than 800 can be erected complete and ready to open inside of $15,000. This is not merely heresay, but facts. I can mention several towns in the northwest where recently theaters have been built for that amount: Nampa, Idaho, for instance, has a new house such as I speak of. Kelso and Dayton, Washington, have comfortable ground floor theaters that cost less than the sum I mentioned. I am ready and willing to furnish information relative to the cost and equipment of the theater buildings in these several towns. There is no reason why Pendleton should be set aside by the big attractions in favor of Mountain Home, Nampa, La Grande and The Dalles. A new theater in Pendleton will not only induce the traveling public to remain with us over night at least, but will give social enjoyment to the residents in the smaller towns in the county, and the many ranchers who wish to take advantage of a cozy, comfortable theater, where the big productions would be properly staged.

I am in receipt of a letter from Mr. John Cort, general manager of the Northwestern Theatrical association, authorizing me to offer 6 per cent net interest on an investment not to exceed $20,000 and that the Northwestern Theatrical association will assume a fifteen year lease with me, so that it will be absolutely safe with the investor. He also states with a new house in Pendleton he will give me all the big attractions that play at the Heilig theater in Portland.

An ideal theater location with a Main street entrance is now available on a sixty-day option. Pendleton with its many improvements, namely, the Roundup, the asylum, the new federal building, new Main street bridge, etc., promised for the very near future, should also have her share of good things theatrically. A new theater will not only be a source of pleasure to the local people, but a boost for Pendleton with the man who travels and talks. I am

Yours truly,
C. J. MITCHELL.

THE BRIDE'S MISTAKE.

They were newly married and on their honeymoon trip. They stopped at a sky-scraper hotel. The bridegroom felt a little indisposed and the bride said she would slip out and do some shopping. In due time she returned and tripped blithely up to her room, a trifle awed by the number of doors that looked all alike. But she was sure of her own and tapped gently on the panel.

"I'm back honey, let me in," she whispered.

No answer.

"Honey, honey, let me in!" she called again, rapping louder.

Still no answer.

There was silence for several minutes—then a man's voice, cold and full of dignity, came from the other side of the door.

"Madam, this is a bathroom—not a beehive."

A PRINCE'S CURIOSITY.

As is well known, the present king of England agrees heartily with Mr. Roosevelt on the race suicide question, and, as an example to the English people, has a large family. It is said that during the illness of the late King Edward some years ago one of the younger sons of the then Prince of Wales was told that he might see his grandfather if he would promise to be very still and quiet. The promise was given and he was admitted to the bedside of the king. After a short stay he approached closer and said: "Grandfather, have I been very good and quiet?"

"Yes," replied the king.

"Well then, grandfather, could I please see the baby?"—Human Life.

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From those who, heedless still yet long for rest;
For to give rightly is Love's first behest.

Give as the sun gives day in place of night,
As the glad lark its song of pure delight;
Give as the landscape all its beauty shows,
As yields its tender scent the generous rose,
Give as the rain floods all the thirsting earth,
As flings the breeze its ripples of soft mirth;
As the wide tree spreads shade in noontide glare,
The best thou knowest give, that all may share.

And as these lack not, neither shalt thou lack;
For all thy giving shall increase thy store;
Because, unsought, thy sowing shall give back
An hundredfold of good—till more and more
Thy garners of true joy brimming o'er. —Edith Carter.

ABSTRACTING THE ABSTRACT.

He was a huge man of the navvy species, and as he stood in the witness box, counsel eyed him dubiously. He knew he would be a hard nut to crack—a very hard nut, indeed.

"What we want to get at," he began, "is, who was the aggressor?"

"Eh?" said the witness, puzzled.

"Let me illustrate my meaning," said counsel. "Supposing I should meet you in the street and strike you in the face; I would be the aggressor."

"You'd be a fool!" said the witness with growing emphasis.

"No—no!" said counsel with heightened color. "I was speaking only in abstract. Suppose we met, and, without provocation, I struck you. I should be committing an act of aggression."

The navvy hunched his huge shoulders.

"You'd be committing suicide, mister," he remarked grimly.—Los Angeles Examiner.

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