

CORVALLIS GAZETTE



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O. A. DEARING, EDITOR AND BUSINESS MANAGER

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

In their persistent and laudable efforts to establish a rural telephone system that will put them in direct touch with the world, the farmers of Benton county are entitled to every encouragement and assistance. The establishment of the free rural delivery has done much to change the conditions of farm life, but the telephone is destined to prove the instrumentality of a new civilization. It is estimated that during the last five years telephones have been put into nearly 500,000 rural homes. The farmer finds that with the telephone he can keep in touch with the market, selling his produce or live stock when quotations are most favorable. By sparing himself and help useless trips to and from town for the purpose of delivering his products or of ascertaining the status of the market, he now saves a vast amount of time in the course of year. When he is assured over the 'phone that he can sell to advantage he loads up his wagon, and not till then.

Aside from this purely business aspect of the matter, the telephone adds greatly to the farmer's opportunities for entertainment and enlightenment. In Illinois the speeches of a recent political convention were listened to by the farmers on a rural system as they sat in their homes from fifteen to thirty miles away. Being in speaking distance of his neighbor, not only does the farmer feel a new sense of personal security, but he knows that his belongings are safer from molestation than they ever were before.

The prediction is made that within a very few years the majority of the 4,000,000 farmers said to be yet unprovided with the telephone service will have followed their more enterprising brethren and brought themselves within touch of civilization. That Benton county farmers will not be the last to do so, we have every assurance.

The result of the primary election held in Multnomah county last week would seem to mark the close of the late factional strife which has raged in republican ranks there for the past fourteen years. The Simon forces were so decisively beaten last Wednesday, that they must see the hopelessness of further opposition. On the other hand, the victors can afford to be magnanimous in their dealings with the contingent that has suffered defeat. That victors and vanquished are disposed to bury their differences and unite in opposition to the common enemy, is evidenced by the attitude assumed by Judge Carey, who led the Mitchell forces, and the assurances of Simon delegates that they desire peace.

This uniting of the party in Multnomah county will be gratifying to republicans throughout the entire state. In years past the opposing factions have carried their fight into every county in Oregon, and rival organizations have knifed each other to the advantage of the democratic party, and managers of the latter party, both local and state, have made the most of this opportunity. Nothing has been left undone that would widen the breach between republican factions. Therein lay the only hope of democratic success. The scheme has worked so admirably that for years we have had the spectacle of a minority party electing a majority of its candidates for county offices. That a democratic government sits in the state house of republican Oregon, is due to this factional policy of rule or ruin.

With the defeat of the Simon forces in the Multnomah county primaries, democracy also suffered a severe reverse. Secretary Ryan, of the democratic central committee of Multnomah county, boasted that many members of his party would vote the Simon ticket in order to assist in widening the breach between the two factions. "From a democratic standpoint," said he, "they doubtless look upon this as a good policy. If the republicans are split as badly in the future as they are now, the democrats will stand a good chance on election day."

There is a clause in the preamble of the proposed primary election law, to be passed upon next June, that Mr. Ryan—and for that matter democratic strategists throughout the state—might read with profit to the moral side of their anatomy: "Every political party and every voluntary political organization has the same right to be protected from the interference of persons who are not identified with it as its known and publicly avowed members, that the government of the state has to protect itself from the interference of persons who are not known and registered as its electors. It is as great a wrong to the people, as well as to the members of a political party, for one who is not known to be one of its members to vote or take any part, as it is for one who is not a qualified and registered elector to vote at any state election or take any part in the business of the state. Every political party and voluntary political organization is rightfully entitled to the sole and exclusive use of every word of its official name. The people of the state and the members of every political party and voluntary

political organization are rightfully entitled to know that every person who offers to take any part in the affairs or business of any political party or voluntary political organization in the state is in good faith a member of such party."

The Independence Enterprise has prepared the following very fair summary of the provisions of the proposed local option law upon which voters are to pass at the June election. Section 1 provides that whenever ten per cent of the registered voters of any county, precinct, or other legal subdivision of a county petition, the county court shall order an election to be held at the time mentioned in such petition, to determine whether the sale of intoxicating liquors shall be prohibited in such territory. By legal subdivision of a county is meant any precinct, town, city or ward.

Section 10, which is the most important section of the bill, provides, "if a majority of the votes hereon as a whole, or in any subdivision in a county as a whole, or in any precinct in the county, are for prohibition, said court shall immediately make an order declaring the result of said vote and absolutely prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors within the prescribed limits. The county court shall issue an order for prohibition, notwithstanding the county as a whole voted against prohibition.

Section 11 provides that if a majority voting at any election hereunder vote against prohibition the court shall make an order declaring the result, and have the same entered on records of said court, all of which shall be subject to the provisions in section 10 of this act.

Reading the sections together it appears that if an election is called for a county and prohibition carries as a whole, the precincts favoring license are not given local option, but are bound by the majority vote of the county. If, on the other hand, prohibition is defeated in the county as a whole, the precincts favoring prohibition are given local option. This is a feature of the measure that should be fairly understood.

Section 14 reads: When prohibition has been carried at an election held for the entire county, no election shall thereafter be held in any subdivision or precinct thereof until after prohibition has been defeated at a subsequent election held for the entire county; nor in any case where prohibition has been carried in any subdivision of any county shall an election be held thereafter in any precinct of such subdivision until prohibition has been defeated at a subsequent election held for such entire subdivision.

This gives the prohibitionist a very decided advantage under the law over those who favor license. The remaining sections relate to the enforcement of the law, and are exceedingly strict, prohibiting the giving away of liquor and throwing the burden of proof upon the person accused of violating the law, as: "It shall not be necessary to state the kind of liquor sold, nor to describe the place where sold, nor to show the knowledge of the principal to convict for the acts of an agent or servant."

Mr. S. I. Pratt has abandoned his efforts to secure the republican nomination for school superintendent of this county, and has announced himself an independent candidate. A petition in the interests of Mr. Pratt's candidacy is being circulated by Henry Ambler, of the firm of Ambler & Watters.

Why should it excite surprise that the Hearst boom finds friends among the Oregon democracy. It has been so many, many years since a boom with a barrel behind it has come within reach of their longing, itching palms, that it looks like a return of the good old times "before the war." No wonder the old war horses brighten up and feel their oats.

OUR BRAINY CONTEMPORARIES.

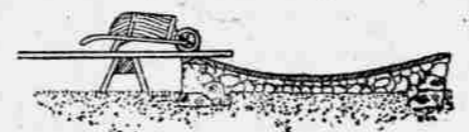
It seems scarcely possible that China will escape being drawn into the maelstrom of war which seethes and swirls on her northeastern border. Russia will make terms for her own interests in the movement of troops, furnishing supplies, etc., that China cannot comply with and still remain at peace with Japan, or for that matter with other nations that are pledged to fair play between the present contestants. Distinctly, savagely, implacably aggressive in Manchuria, Russia is likely to take what she wants from China, unless China backs her refusal to be looted in the interest of Russia by force of arms. Poor old China, with her swarming millions of subjects and almost utter lack of statesmen! Rotten at the core and weak in military equipment, bravery, patriotism and leadership, she was easily and hopelessly routed by Japan a few years ago. Remembering this and noting her present stress and the menace that confronts her, it is not difficult to forecast the panic that will ensue should Russia fulfill her threat of marching upon Peking. However, something will soon be doing in this event in other quarters that will not be all hostile to the interests of "far Cathay."—Oregonian.



STABLE DRESSING.

Valuable Hints About Preserving It in Good Condition.

We hear much about the desirability of manure cellars, covered barnyards, manure sheds and other covered quarters for housing dressing until one is ready to apply it to the land; but the fact remains that the average farmer who is not now blessed with one of these means of preserving manure at its best, does not, in nine cases out of ten, see his way clear to provide himself with one of them. The barn that is now without a cellar cannot easily be fitted out with this desirable adjunct. Building additional roofs to cover stable manure is not looked upon with favor in these days when every dollar has

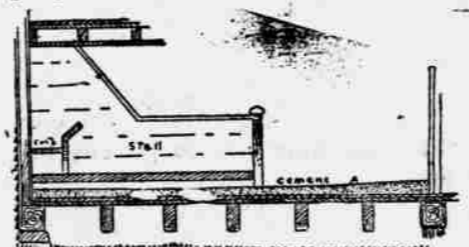


FOUNDATION FOR MANURE HEAP.

its appointed mission marked out for it, even before it is received. It is all very well to describe ideal conditions, but it seems to me that more good is often done in describing conditions that are less than ideal, but still serviceable, practical and easily within the reach of all.

With this end in view, I present a sectional view of a homemade foundation for a manure heap in the open air, which will keep the manure in a condition very nearly at its best. This foundation is made just far enough away from the stable to escape any drip from the eaves. It is made square or round, as may be preferred, and has a rough stone wall about the outer edge extending down below the frost line. Within this, over the surface of the ground, are placed loose stones, lowest in the center, as shown. A coat of cement, two inches thick, is placed over them, the surface thus being made saucer-shaped.

To this foundation is wheeled the manure from the cow and horse stalls, the latter being spread evenly over the



CEMENT AND BOARD FLOOR.

former. If the heap should begin to heat, let it be drenched with water, either from a near-by well or from the eaves-trough of the barn. Often the manure heap can be located so that water can be conveyed directly upon it from the pump by means of a spout.

Cow manure is considered cold and slow to heat, but it has been my experience that where all the liquids are saved with the solids, the mass is much more likely to heat. Where heat is generated, and water can be turned on as needed, decay will take place very rapidly, and the manure will soon be in a condition to become readily available for the use of plants. With such a foundation, and with water at hand to apply as needed, the dressing will lose little or none of its valuable elements, entirely uncovered as it is.

I present also a diagram showing the plan I have recently adopted in a village stable for saving the solids and liquids without loss. Two cow and two horse stalls occupy a closed room by themselves in one end of the stable. I desired a cement floor here, but could not well make its foundation upon the ground, as the stable sets well up from the ground. I therefore laid a double board floor, sloping it toward the rear. Upon this double floor was laid a coat of cement, following the pitch of the floor to a point a little behind the stalls, at A. From that point it pitches the other way till the partition is reached, as shown in the diagram.

The platforms of the stalls are raised several inches above the inclined cement floor. All the liquid that runs through the platforms will be conducted down the inclined cement floor to the point A, where it soaks into a lot of litter, sawdust, etc., with which the floor behind the stalls is kept covered.

I present this plan because it can well be adopted in barns and stables already built, the incline being secured in the coating of cement, since the board floor will be level. A thin coat of cement behind the stalls would be injured by the sharp shoes of horses, but this will not occur if the cement is kept well covered with absorbents, that are removed as they become saturated. Without some such arrangement as this, a large part of the liquid manure is likely to leak down through the floor and be lost in the ground beneath, or become a menace to health if the stable be adjacent to one's house or well.

Both of these plans that are figured call for no expenditure of money except for the cement that is needed, and this is not large in amount.—Country Gentleman.

Spring Announcement

WASH GOODS

New Percales and Calicos
New Gingham and Chambrays
New Challies and Cotton Suitings
New White Waistings

New Dress Skirts and Shirt Waists

WOOL DRESS GOODS

New Mixed Suitings
New Scotch Weaves
New Etamine and Vellies
New Mohairs, Plain and Figured
New Black Dress Goods

NOVELTIES

New Buttons
New Waist Sets
New Trimmings
New Ornaments
New Stock Collars
New Laces
New Ribbons

New Hosiery and Underwear

DOMESTICS

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New Muslins and Sheetings
New Towels and Toweling
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