

TO DREDGE THE WILLAMETTE.

Bill Introduced in Legislature Providing for an Appropriation of \$25,000 to Open the River Below Corvallis.

Hon. T. D. Cornett, representative of Linn county, this week introduced a bill in the legislature, that has a very flattering prospect of becoming a law, providing for an appropriation of \$25,000 by the state to pay for opening the Willamette river for year-round navigation.

The dredging of the shallow places between Corvallis and Salem is of most urgent necessity, as it would enable the river boats to ply between this city and Portland the year round. As it is now, on account of a few shallows this side of Salem, boats can only reach Corvallis during the winter when the water is high.

The bill is as follows:

"The bill for an act creating the board of internal commerce commissioners, defining its duties, directing and authorizing the opening, deepening, dredging and improvement of the Willamette river between Portland, Oregon, and Corvallis, Oregon, and appropriating \$25,000 therefor.

"Be it enacted by the people of the state of Oregon:

Section 1 That the governor, the secretary of state and the treasurer of the state of Oregon, shall constitute and comprise the board of internal commerce commissioners, which is hereby created.

Section 2 That it is the duty of the board of internal commerce commissioners to cause the Willamette river, between Portland, Oregon, and Corvallis, Oregon, to be opened, deepened, dredged and otherwise improved to the end that said river may be easily navigable for the purposes of commerce at all seasons of the year between said points; and to file with the secretary of state full report of its action under the provisions thereof.

Section 3. That the members of said board of internal commerce commissioners shall serve without compensation except their actual expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as such members thereof.

Section 4 That there is hereby appropriated out of the general fund of the state of Oregon, the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) or so much thereof as may be necessary, from any monies not otherwise appropriated, to be expended by said board of internal commerce commissioners in carrying out the purposes of this act; and the secretary of state is hereby authorized to draw his warrant upon the state treasurer for said sum, or part thereof, when directed by said board to do so."

To Buy Oregon City Locks.

A resolution on the subject of government ownership of the Oregon City Locks, as has been agitated by the Gazette and other valley papers was introduced by Senator Avery, of this county, and passed by both Houses of the state legislature now in session. It is as follows:

Whereas, an act was passed by the legislative assembly of the state of Oregon in 1870, appropriating money to the Willamette Falls Canal & Locks company to aid in the construction of a canal and locks in the Willamette river at Oregon City, Oregon, and by the terms of said act the said corporation was empowered to charge at the rate of 50 cents per ton for freight and 10 cents for each and every passenger passing through said locks; and

Whereas, the rate thus permitted to be charged fixes the amount chargeable against all freight and passengers whether carried by river or rail, traveling in either direction along the Willamette river; and

Whereas, the producers and shippers of the state ought to have the benefit of this tax, which if removed would increase the value of commodity now passing through said locks; and

Whereas the Willamette river ought to be open to free navigation and this can only be accomplished by government ownership of the said canal and locks at Oregon City.

Now therefore, be it resolved by the senate, the house concurring that our representatives in congress be and they hereby are memorialized to introduce in congress, and endeavor by all honorable means to procure the passage of a bill providing for the purchase by the government of the said canal and locks of Oregon City, and if the price thereof cannot be agreed upon between the present owners thereof and the government, that an act be passed authorizing the condemnation of said canal and locks or the construction of a canal and locks on the opposite side of the river from that now constructed, and appropriating a sufficient sum of money for that purpose.

Mahara's Minstrels.

The famous Mahara's Operatic Minstrels announced for February 4th, is a superb combination in all the best and most popular of opera, travesty, vaudeville, music, snappy specialties, beautiful costumes, funny comedians, novel dances, special scenery, brilliant electrical effects, pretty girls, picturesque ensembles, bewildering drills, and all the latest song hits and many new and original stage novelties. The entire performance is presented in a metropolitan organization of the foremost colored singers, comedians and specialty artists of their race in America. More bright music, entertaining vaudeville numbers and hearty laughing are crowded into two and one-half hours of Mahara's Minstrels than would supply half a dozen of the average musical farce comedies.

Oratorical Contest Tonight.

The local oratorical contest mentioned in the GAZETTE of January 13, is to occur to night (Friday) at the OAC Armory. Eight orators will engage in intellectual combat contesting for the honor of representing OAC in the state contest to be held at Newberg.

Each college society will have one representative in the try-out tonight, as follows: Sosis, Lucile Roberts; Feronian, Louise Gilbert; Zetegathean, Ralph Shepard; Amicitian, John Withycombe; Jeffersonian, N. V. Weatherford; Philadelphian, Haman Bilyeu; Utopian, Laura Pratt; Pierian, Edna Smith.

A large audience is expected, and great enthusiasm will prevail as each of the eight societies will be present in a body to cheer their orator to victory. An admission of 15 cents will be charged.

American Negroes.

There are 9,204, 531 negroes in the United States, including Porto Rico and Hawaii. Nineteenth of them live in the South—one-third of its population. Seventy-seven per cent work on 746,000 farms, of which twenty-one percent are absolutely, and four per cent partially, owned by negroes. There are 21,000 negro carpenters, 20,000 barbers and nearly as many doctors, 16,000 ministers, 15,000 masons, 12,000 dressmakers, 10,000 engineers and firemen, 5,000 shoemakers, 4,000 musicians, 2,000 actors, and showmen, 1,000 lawyers (which seems too many). Since 1890 negro illiteracy has sunk from 57 to 44.5 per cent. Statistics are rather stupid fellows but these look bright and full of hope. —Everybody's Magazine for Feb.

COLLEGE JOTTINGS.

Items of Interest In and Around the O. A. C.

Mr. Shepard gave a short talk to the girls of the student body, on the subject of the girls' place in the new student building.

Another picture of the OAC cadets was taken Wednesday at 1 o'clock p. m. The one taken before being to test the camera and the distance was not arranged properly.

President Gatch announced in chapel that the boys could have Tuesdays and Thursdays for bowling and the girls the remainder of the week.

The boys are training every day in the cross-country run for the spring tryout.

This evening the Local Oratorical contest occurs in the college Armory. Admission 15 cents.

The boys' basket ball team leaves today for Portland, where they have a game tonight.

Union Evangelistic Service.

Continuing the Union Evangelistic services now being held in the Baptist church by Rev. Roy Palmer, D. D., Rev. W. J. Harsha, D. D., of Denver, Colo. under the auspices of the Presbyterian General Assembly's Committee on evangelistic work will be here next Wednesday Feb. 1, to conduct a two weeks, series of union services in the Presbyterian church. Rev. Drs. Palmer and Harsha come from very successful meetings in Albany.

Rev. Dr. Palmer is well known to the people of Oregon and will be most welcome to Corvallis. Rev. Dr. Harsha is a man of reputation. This fall he had the honor of holding a series of meetings in Rev. N. D. Hillis' church Brooklyn, New York. This is the first series of meetings held in that church since the death of Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, D. D. Later at a series of meetings under his direction in Fort Worth, Texas, over five hundred decided for Christ. He is a strong preacher of quiet spiritual mind, and not sensational. To know Rev. Dr. Harsha is to love him, and we speak for him an earnest hearing and a hearty welcome.

Jefferson Sewer Gives Trouble.

R. M. Gilbert has been at work with a crew of helpers this week repairing the damage done by the Jefferson street sewer where it empties into the Willamette river.

For some time this sewer has caused considerable caving at its mouth, it is supposed on account of the sewer being blocked up at some point near the river, causing the water to break out higher up and force an outlet of its own. Recently, however, the caving has become greater until it threatened to swamp the C. & E. railroad siding and the trestle approach to the dock. Mr. Gilbert was hired by the council to temporarily repair the place, so that it would hold until summer when the water in the river will be lower, enabling a complete investigation so that permanent repairs may be made. A pile driver has been in operation and a sort of trestle work has been built under the dock and railroad track, that is thought will suffice for the present.

On account of the recent establishment of the Rural Free Delivery route from Monroe, the Star route between Inavale and Corvallis has been discontinued. The postal department at Washington, D. C. asks for bids for carrying the mail six days in the week from Corvallis to Inavale. A bond of \$1200 is required by the government and the bids for the new route must be received at Washington, D. C. before Feb. 14. Further particulars can be secured from Postmaster B. W. Johnson of this city.

F. L. MILLER'S Big Advance Sale of Women's and Children's MUSLIN UNDERWEAR

Lot 4



Lot 1

12 1/2c



Lot 6

1.10



Lot 3

29c

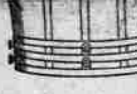


Lot 5

79c

Lot 2

19c



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