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DR. JAMES WITHYCOMBE.

A Candidate for the Governorship of Oregon.

It is a genuine pleasure to give space to the following article, published in The New Age, Sept. 23, wherein are recited some of the merits of our fellowtownsman, Dr. James Withycombe:

The problem as to who will be the Republican candidate to defeat Governor George E. Chamberlain in his contest next year to succeed himself as chief executive of this state does not at this time appear to be one of easy solution. The names of a number of aspirants have been mentioned in connection with the Republican nomination for that important office, but the party has not yet determined in its collective mind what it will do in the matter. On the other hand, the Democrats have not entertained a thought of anyone in connection except Hon. Geo. E. Chamberlain. He will be their candidate—and he will be a hard man to beat. Therefore, it is extremely important that the Republicans exercise the greatest care in their selection of a candidate.

Most popular among those already mentioned for the responsibility of the campaign for that office, it is generally believed, is Dr. James Withycombe, director of the Agricultural College at Corvallis. There are many potent reasons for this assumption. He is one of the ablest and most honorable Republicans in the state. He belongs to no faction, and, therefore, has made no political enemies. He has for 30 years been a loyal and consistent Republican, a sound-money man and a rational protectionist. He enjoys the record of having always supported and worked for the nominee of his party for every important office; and, although he is not factional, he has never antagonized any faction or organization. He believes in clean politics and in the principle that every public office should be filled by a man of unquestioned integrity, "whose past life," to use the doctor's own phraseology, "is as an open book where no turned-down pages hint of hidden weaknesses." The doctor added: "If the people of Oregon desire me to be their candidate, I will accept the nomination, and, if elected, will do all in my power for the upbuilding of our good state. I shall depend entirely on the primary elections for my nomination, as the people have so willed for such things to be determined. If my ambition fails, I expect to be a loyal Republican and will be found in line for him on whom the choice may fall."

That kind of talk shows something of the character and disposition of Dr. Withycombe. He is an able, earnest and honorable man in all the activities of life. In the matter of popularity with the farming element throughout the state he stands supreme among those mentioned in connection with the nomination for the gubernatorial office. He has met and instructed thousands of them in the farmers' institutes throughout the commonwealth. They are his friends. The business interests of the state have had occasion to know him well. Those who conduct these interests respect the doctor's conscientiousness, progressiveness and genuineness of manhood.

Dr. Withycombe is a man of firmness and unimpeachable integrity. Alert and ambitious, he is always busy with study and plans for the advancement of the interests of the state—of the great institution of which he is director, it is accomplishing great good for the people of the state.

Dr. James Withycombe's election would surely follow his nomination—and Dr. Withy-

combe would be governor in fact. Ripened years of his life have come, but he has never been charged with being a figurehead yet, in any capacity, private or public. His many influential friends who have urged him formally to announce his candidacy express the belief that, under the direct nomination law, he will sweep the western part of the state and will run beyond his party's strength on the other side of the mountains. It would be even so on election day.

Heard From.

A week or two ago there was a mild sensation in town occasioned by the unaccountable absence of Frank Brown. It was also ascertained that Miss Leda Baker, a young lady with whom Mr. Brown had been keeping company was away from home. These two facts gave rise to some rather wild guesses. Under date of September 25 the following dispatch, which is supposed to explain the situation, was sent out from Tacoma, Wash:

Over the telephone came a message this morning to the County Courthouse, asking some one to tell the County Auditor that a Miss Baker appeared there with a young man named Brown to get a marriage license, that the young girl had "skipped out," and it would be no use to get the license. Asked for the facts, it developed that the young man, F. C. Brown, who hails from Corvallis, Or., had been paying attention to Miss Leda Baker, a girl of 16, a daughter of a prosperous farmer living near Albany, Or.

The father opposed the match, and the young girl was sent to visit her cousin, Mrs. Holycross, in Tacoma, but Brown was persistent and followed her to Tacoma about three weeks ago. He became so desperate, it is said, that he threatened to shoot himself if the girl refused to marry him, and she finally consented. After he had started for the marriage license, however, she was prevailed upon to alter her mind.

When Brown appeared at the Auditor's office he was accompanied by a friend, and when taken to one side and told that he had better see the family again, his countenance assumed a blank expression and he left the office with an evident determination "to know the reason why." But there was no wedding. Brown left for Oregon on the afternoon train in company with Mr. Baker.

How it Happened.

Marion Hayden, ex-representative from this county, came out from his Alsea home Tuesday. He went on down to Portland the following day to attend the Fair. Mr. Hayden said there was little that was new in his part of the world when he left.

The only thing of note was the stranding of the steamer Harrison on the Alsea bar a week ago. The report that reached Mr. Hayden regarding the grounding of the ship was to the effect that in attempting to enter the bay the steamer missed the channel, which is narrow. When she first struck the spit on one side she backed off and changed her course somewhat and on going ahead again she crossed the channel and struck on the other side. Here she stuck hard and fast and when our informant left his home was reported breaking to pieces.

From several sources it is learned that the Harrison will be a total loss. Certain of the sailors have already passed through this city to Portland.

Have Dr. Lows relieve your eye and ear ache with a pair of his superior glasses. At Hotel Corvallis, Oct. 5 and 6. Consultation and preliminary examination free. 80

THE TRIAL.

Local Option Law Put to Severe Test.

There is no possible condition in life acceptable to a mass of citizens. We may all be of good intent and work for the good of our community, and yet differ. The reason is plain—we are not alike. Not being alike, our tastes differ, our minds differ, and our differences lie in our creation, our condition, our environment. To wrangle and squabble is scarcely a state of condition calculated to draw people to your community—or our community.

And yet in greater or less degree we find warring among people in every province, in every district, and in every community. Warring and disagreement right down the line even unto members of the same family. Every fellow is determined that he is right and the other fellow is wrong—at least such is too frequently the case. In their strong feeling of what is best for themselves and others many a man allows his zeal to warp his judgment and he becomes a prey to prejudices which he may possess unbeknown to himself.

We all (with the exception of a few perhaps) desire to see law and order prevail. The law we declare must be obeyed. The law is a power and in obedience of the laws do we, as a class, or race, distinguish ourselves from barbarians? He who breaks a law should be punished and punishment is meted out in accordance with the offense or crime committed.

On the first day of last January the local option law went into effect in Benton county. Since that time there has perhaps been as much trouble so far as the invocation of the courts is concerned as there was in any such like period before—or nearly so. Our local option law (bear in mind we are not against temperance—it may later, and we hope it will. The same men who heretofore used whiskey still have it. And still being able to get liquor they still use it.)

Along about the first of August last (possibly earlier) an organization sprang into being in our city styling itself the Corvallis Social and Athletic Club. It was claimed that the club had incorporated under the laws of the State of Oregon. The eyes of many people popped wide at what was generally termed defiance of the local option law. The club began to operate and various were the stories afloat regarding the club and what was taking place. It was claimed that it was not better than a saloon. That liquor was dispensed there can be little doubt.

Just what the law is on the matter of club organization in Oregon is something that a very few lawyers seem to know very clearly and yet in the face of this fact nearly every man you would meet on the streets knew all about it and his opinion of the law was always along lines in accordance with his particular views of clubs—for or against as the case may be, or have been.

Such was about the state of affairs when the case of the State of Oregon vs. Chas. M. Kline and Jack Milne came up in Justice Holgate's court last Tuesday. The complaint charged that the above mentioned defendants had sold or given to George Plaster, on a certain date, liquor in defiance of the local option law. J. D. Wells swore to the complaint. The prosecution for the state was in the hands of Deputy Prosecuting Attorney E. R. Bryson, of this city. Mr. Wyatt, of the law firm of Weatherford & Wyatt, of Albany, appeared for the defendants.

It was near the middle of the afternoon of Tuesday before a jury of six men had been secured. Many jurors had been drawn only to be examined and discharged. A number of men honestly admitted having formed strong opinions in the case. The jury selected consisted of J. R. Smith, A. W. Herbert, O. V. Hart, G. H. Carl, William Bogue and W. T. Small. Then began the examination of the witnesses for the prosecution. The main witness for the state was Mr. Plaster; after that gentleman came many others. The prosecution had witnesses in attendance from Newport, Albany and Portland and after examining the state's witnesses until nearly six o'clock Tuesday evening court was adjourned until 9 a. m. Wednesday morning. Mr. Bryson began on further examination of witnesses for the state. This was concluded shortly before 11 a. m. Mr. Wyatt called two or three witnesses and questioned them. There was some cross examination, but was what would be termed brief and not of lengthy detail.

Then Mr. Bryson began summing up the situation for the state. The noon hour arrived and a recess was declared until 1:30 Wednesday afternoon. When the hour came for resuming court many people were in attendance and Justice Holgate barely escaped a fine for con-

tempt by being tardy at his own court. He commented on the matter when he finally appeared. Mr. Bryson at once began his address to the court. In the course of three-quarters of an hour he had concluded his address to the court and his plea to the jury. Then followed Mr. Wyatt who first made numerous presentations of law and alleged facts to His Honor, later appealing in a fairly short address to the jury. This gentleman perhaps took at this time about one-half hour. Attorney Bryson then made some further argument of facts.

Judge Holgate instructed the jury in a manner that in the minds of many people present left no doubt of the course the jury was to pursue in their deliberations. After retiring to the jury room that body cast but one ballot and it was a conviction. They were out but a very short time.

On hearing the finding of the jury Judge Holgate said that he would pass sentence next Monday. As regards the penalty, we have been informed that the maximum sentence in cases of this nature may be a fine of \$500 and imprisonment in the county jail for a period of six months.

No Bids Opened.

Contrary to public expectations, no bids on piping and material were opened at the meeting of the Water Committee Monday night. Some half a dozen material men were on the ground and as many sealed bids accompanied by the stipulated certified checks were in the hands of the chairman of the committee, still no seal was broken.

The formal opening of the bids was postponed a couple of weeks, or until October 10, by consent of the bidders and the various members of the Water Committee. The postponement was occasioned by the failure of the steel pipe men to have in their bids. The call for bids and specifications for pipe required have been sent to the steel pipe factory in the East, but up to Monday evening, Mr. Jeffreys, a steel pipe dealer, had not received any figures from the factory. For this reason the opening of bids was postponed. As the matter now stands the bids on material will be opened the day after the date set for opening bids for the sale of water bonds.

Sunday the Date.

Sunday morning it will be lawful to shoot China pheasants and it is quite probable that the valley will be swarmed with hunters throughout its length and breadth. Do not fail if you intend going afield to secure your hunters' license, if you have not already done so—it might save you a world of trouble later on.

Pheasants are supposed to be unusually abundant this year. There are two reasons for this state of affairs, one is that the season was most favorable for the birds in every way and the activity of the state game warden and his deputies. A short time ago it was reported in this city that there had been twelve convictions this season of parties shooting pheasants in the valley.

Since the first of September it has been lawful to shoot ducks, but there have been no ducks to shoot. However, recent rains may remind the quackers that they have a date in the valley and then there will be something happening.

In the presence of a large number of relatives and friends, Rev. M. Noble united in marriage Mr. J. C. Woods and Miss Maud M. Seely, at the home of the bride's parents, in Corvallis, Thursday, Sept. 27, 1905. A bountiful repast was enjoyed by all and hearty congratulations offered with good wishes for a prosperous voyage in this life for the happy pair.

Piano Lessons.

Mordaunt A. Goodnough announces the opening of his studio, on 4th and Jackson streets, September 18. Pupils received at any time in Piano, Harmony and Theoretical subjects. Send for catalogue. Phone Ind. 476. 76-84

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Corvallis Social and Athletic Club.

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