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AGAINST THE ROAD BOND.

It seems quite evident that the Weston community will line up almost as a unit against the proposed Umatilla county road bond issue of \$980,000. The Leader has yet to hear a single expression favorable to this measure from a representative Weston farmer, and as the farmers are the heaviest taxpayers and the principal users of the roads, their views will carry weight with townspeople in general.

William MacKenzie, the Weston delegate to the recent Pendleton meeting, is opposed to the road bond program as outlined there, as is also Mayor J. M. Banister, who attended. Mayor Banister expresses the belief that two-thirds of the taxpayers present at the meeting will be found against the bond question when it comes before the people in May.

It is pointed out that in no case will the appropriation allotted to each sector of the road program be sufficient to complete the work, and when the \$980,000 is expended there will be a gap or "jumping off place" on each road to confront the teamster and motorist. The uncompleted gap on the macadam road between Weston and Milton is referred to as a horrible example of this sort of deficiency.

It is also asserted with emphasis that the eight feet of hard surface which it is proposed to apply is at least eight feet too narrow; that eighteen feet would be more to wide and that sixteen feet is absolutely essential. The wheels of automobiles passing each other will in a short time dig out the rock fill at either side of the eight-foot strip of concrete, it is contended by the road bond opponents, leaving the highway in a much worse condition than before improvement was attempted. The motorist will find himself in much the same position as a roller skater trying to cross a foot-bridge. And when motorist or teamster must needs leave the concrete strip to allow another to pass, he will have the devil's own time getting back on again.

To the people of the mountain communities adjacent to Weston the proposed bond issue is about as welcome as a bear to a bee-hive. It brings them no promise of relief. Because of the large expenditures on the macadam roads in the past few years their own highways have received very little consideration, they say, and if a \$980,000 bond is floated for the county's principal arteries of travel the lot of the comparatively isolated

settlement will be harder than ever. They do not want to have a bond floated on their land, and to be taxed for the interest, for road improvements from which they will derive no little benefit.

The entire road program as set forth at the Pendleton meeting is wrong, according to its local opponents. They do not so much object to a bond issue for road improvement as to the kind of bond issue and road improvement proposed. They do not want to see \$980,000 of the people's money frittered away in further road-building experiments, and they regard an eight-foot highway as the worst kind of an experiment. They say that they heard no estimates at Pendleton, no definite plans. What the bond leaders seemed to have in view was a measure that would come as near as possible to getting votes in every well populated part of the county, without regard to whether the sum apportioned would be sufficient for each certain sector. The result will be, it is said, that each road will start out of Pendleton—which will reap the lion's share of the money expended in construction—and when the money ends the road will end, whether or not it reaches its proposed destination.

"We will support a bond," say the Weston men, "that contemplates a set amount for a set purpose, to be specified in the bond. We want to know that the sum voted is sufficient to build the road specified, in a practical and thorough manner—as roads are built in the east and in California—and at least sixteen feet wide. And this goes, whether the road runs to Weston or to Echo or Pilot Rock. We are opposed to seeing \$980,000 of the county's money spent on such an uncertain proposition as the one sponsored at Pendleton by the leading professional lights of the county seat. And as the farmer thinks, so thinks the Leader, and so think the majority of the business men and citizens of this agricultural community. Count us nearly all against the bond issue."

We hope and trust with all our trustful nature that the public-spirited Pendletonians who invest in harvester company stock will never have occasion to say of their manna that they blew it in.

Hughes has said that he is not a candidate but has never said that he will not be candidate. We know of no one in the United States (with the possible exception of us, ourselves) that would turn down a presidential nomination.

With Congress behind him President Wilson will now proceed with his difficult task of convincing Germany and England that he is powerless to change international law.

Our distinguished fellow publisher, C. S. Jackson of the Oregon Journal, has written a sensible letter to the East Oregonian on the road bond question. He says in effect that Umatilla county should look before it leaps.

When one reflects that Charley Chaplin draws more pay than the president of the United States he would almost welcome a savage war to hurl us back into chaos atavic.

If old Umatilla passes the road bonds it will do well to look out for the "con" in contractor and concrete.

No, Reginald, it isn't bad form to tell a Norwegian to go to Hell, if you refer to the town of that name in Norway; but be circumspect with a Swede, as he may prefer to leave Hell to the Norwegians.

Ash Wednesday was duly commemorated at the LEADER office by removing the ashes from the office stove.

If words were whip lashes, Bryan by this time would owe a lacerated back to the Great Only.

An American citizen has an undoubted right to sail the seas on board of an armed merchantman, but it is analogous to the similar privilege of monkeying with a buzz saw.

Both the French and Germans are losers in the colossal shell game at Verdun.

The noble red man is still the victim of discrimination. A Nisqually Indian was sent to the Walla Walla pen for merely stealing a pair of silk stockings when his paleface brother would also have tried to run away with the contents.

Apropos of nothing in particular, and without justification, excuse or apology, we are going to say that one should never behave like a goose when confronting a propaganda.

Looks as though the assault on Verdun is intended by the Kaiser as an essential course in the Crown Prince's military education.

Scientists claim that yawning is extremely beneficial, which is an excellent reason for reading the Congressional Record.

Bachelor Girls Will Entertain.

Invitations have been issued by the Bachelor Girls' Club for a leap year dancing party Saturday evening of this week. Each girl attending invites her own escort and pays one dollar for the dancing ticket. Whatever "wall flower" posing results from the occasion must be done by the young men, as the girls will select their own partners and list them on printed programs. Three spaces are reserved, however, for "gentlemen's choice," and these afford the only opportunity for the exercise of the least initiative on the part of the sterner sex. The grand march will be led by the club officers, each escorting a timid and blushing male, and when refreshments are in order the young gentlemen—or the gentle young men—will be duly conveyed to the punch bowl. There will be fetching decorations in the club colors, green and gold.

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LONE MOUNTAINEER FOUND DEAD IN HIS CABIN HOME

Henry Goldberg, about sixty years old, was found dead Wednesday in his cabin in the Finnish settlement on Reed and Hawley mountains. Goldberg had suffered for a number of years with asthmatic trouble, which is thought to have caused his death. He lived alone on his forty-acre mountain farm, and so far as known had no relatives. Coroner Brown came up from Pendleton yesterday to investigate the case.

Want to Go to Annapolis?

In order to give every boy in his district an even chance to enter Annapolis Naval Academy if he can "make good" Congressman Nick Sinnott informs The Leader that he will designate candidates for the vacancy just created by the new naval bill by means of a competitive examination. The examination will be held by the U. S. Civil Service Commission for Congressman Sinnott on March 22d. In order that any boy may take the examination without much expense for travel it will be given in the following seven cities on the same day (March 22d): The Dalles, Bend, Klamath Falls, Pendleton, Baker, La Grande and Ontario. The examinations will be conducted by the Secretary of the Civil Service Board at the postoffice in each of these cities, beginning at 9 a. m.

The candidate who passes this examination with the highest grade will be appointed as principal by the Eastern Oregon congressman, and those standing second and third, will be first alternate and second alternate respectively. The official examination for admission to the Academy takes place on April 15th. Any young man may enter this competitive examination who is now and was February 1, 1916, an actual resident of the Second Oregon Congressional District, provided he is over sixteen years of age and will not be twenty years of age by or before April 15th, 1916.

The examination will be written in form, and will embrace the following subjects: English Grammar, Geography, U. S. History, Arithmetic, Algebra and Geometry, Spelling and Punctuation will be graded from the other manuscripts. Those thinking of taking the examination can get sample questions and full information about the Naval Academy by writing Congressman Sinnott, Room 494 House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

Yes, We're Growing, Too.

While not, like some of its neighbors, abandoning its progress and prosperity from the house-tops, Weston is nevertheless moving along in a modest way "its wonders to perform."

An attractive glass front has been built for the Gonid building on Water street, and Albert (Strick) James has installed therein one of the classiest barber shops to be found in the East End.

The Schwartz building recently vacated by J. B. Parsons is undergoing extensive repairs and improvements, including a new floor, prior to occupancy by E. E. Kirkpatrick with his confectionery and cigar store. Next fall Mr. Kirkpatrick expects to install a modern bowling alley in the basement, which is well adapted to this purpose. It is said to be Mr. Schwartz's intention to put in a septic tank at the rear of the building.

Dr. P. D. Watts has arranged for modern office rooms in the upper story of his large brick building at the corner of Main and Franklin streets, occupied on the lower floor by the Weston Mercantile company. A built-in staircase leads to the rooms from a convenient entrance on Franklin street.

Dr. Watts has certain other operations in view by which Weston will be supplied with a well-appointed hotel—an establishment which is one of the greatest of the community's needs.

Another of the spring's promised improvements is the concrete garage which Lowell Rogers contemplates constructing at the Dupuis corner.

G. W. Stagers is building concrete quarters for his new hotel at his Washington street residence.

The First Offender.

One Edward McKechnie had the doubtful distinction of being the first offender arrested at Weston for alleged inebriety since the dry law went into effect. After spending one night in jail he was brought before the recorder and fined \$5.00, while he also had the sad experience of watching his whiskey bottle drained into the gutter. "God, I'm dry," was his pathetic comment. McKechnie pleaded poverty, and said he had no friends who would go his bail until he could earn fine money. When told by Recorder Barrett, however, that he would have to pay or go back to jail, he pulled off one shoe, dug up a fat roll of bills from the toe of his sock and liquidated without further demur. Chief Wilson had previously searched the prisoner but missed his private bank. Upon being interrogated as to the source of his funds, McKechnie said that he had found it in the manger of an Athena barn, and would now go back and get some more where that came from. When last seen, after paying his fine and leaving the unsympathetic precincts of this metropolis, he was wending his way over the hills towards the suburbs. That barn manger was to him as the haven of relief to a thirsty pilgrim in a weary land.

Germany has declared war on Portugal, the 13th nation now involved.

Melba's Name.

Mrs. Melba's name was Nellie Mitchell until her marriage, when it became Mrs. C. N. F. Armstrong. At the time of her debut into opera she decided to adopt a stage name, and her intense loyalty to the land of her birth moved her to combine the first four letters of Melbourne, her native town, and the last letter of Victoria, the reigning queen of that time, to gether making Melba.—New York Telegraph.

The Diamond.

While the diamond is the hardest substance known, it is also brittle and may be fractured by a blow. But if it is placed between two hard steel faces in a hydraulic press, and a slowly accelerating pressure applied the hard steel will become indented.

MORE NEW Suits, Coats and Dresses. We have the New White Chinchilla Coats at \$9.90-\$12.50-\$16.50. See the Ladies' Slip-on Rain coat, a dandy good value for \$12.50, and one of the latest.

Hope Muslin @ 7 1/2 c. Fruit of the Loom @ 10c. 60 Berkeley @ 12 1/2 c. 100 Berkeley @ 15c and 150 Berkeley @.....19c	Bungalow Aprons, all sizes.....49c
Apron Check Gingham.....5c-6 1/2 c	Bleached Sheetings @.....21c-25c
Dress Gingham in light and dark patterns @.....8 1/2 c-10c	Pillow Tubing @.....16c-18c-22c
Percales, 1 yd. wide, light and dark patterns @.....10c-12 1/2 c	White and Fancy Oilcloth.....20c
House Lining @.....4c-5c	Window Shades.....5 ft. 25c, 7 ft. 40c
Children's Rompers in 3 styles, all colors.....45c	Knit-wrist, leather faced Cotton Gloves.....15c
	Work Shoes.....20c-45c
	Children's Shoes.....\$2.49-\$2.99
\$3.50-\$3.99-\$4.50

JUST RECEIVED—Shipment of Men's Suits in blues and fancies at \$9.90-\$12.50-\$14.75. Come in and look them over.

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A Pirate's Model Kingdom.

Pitcairn Island is in latitude 25 degrees 3 minutes south and longitude 130 degrees 3 minutes west, or almost exactly south of Vancouver Island and just a little south of the tropic of Capricorn. It was first settled in 1790 by nine mutineers from the English ship Bonny and eighteen natives of Tahiti. By the year 1808, when the island was discovered by the English, the population had grown to sixty-six persons who formed a model community under the patriarchal government of John Adams, the only surviving mutineer, who had saved a Bible from the ship and was ruling with wisdom and justice his little kingdom of slightly over two miles in length. The island is under the British flag and has a cluster of hundred inhabitants.—Christian Register.

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It Wouldn't Work.

Some time since a learned doctor was giving a friend a bit of good advice with regard to masturbation. "No matter what you eat," said the physician, "you should chew each mouthful thirty times. It"—

"That's all right, doctor," smilingly interjected the friend, "but that would not work in my case."

"It wouldn't work?" responded the doctor wonderingly. "Why not?"

"I live in a boarding house," answered the friend, "and my voracious fellow feeders would have the table cleaned while I was eating one mouthful."—Philadelphia Telegraph.

Getting Around It.

"When I was your age I worked fourteen hours a day," said the worried father.

"Well, what of it?" replied the young man who squanders.

"Nothing much; only when you get to be my age that is probably what you will have to do."—Washington Star.

Bathed in Blood.

Not always was a bottle of wine used in christening a ship. In the days of sacrifice to the gods, it is said, it was customary to sacrifice a human being when a boat was being launched and to cut his throat over the prow so that his blood baptized it.—Argonaut.

Relief.

"Is your daughter improving in her music?"

"No; but the next best thing is happening. She's getting tired of it and won't practice."—Washington Star.

Those who eat most are not always the fittest, so those who read much have not always the most knowledge.—Cinclet.

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