

THE ENTERPRISE.

CHAS. RESERVE.
Publisher and Proprietor.

OREGON CITY, JANUARY 23, 1901.

In commenting on the governor's message there are but few journals of the state, whether independent, democratic or republican, that do not concede its indefatigable and apparently earnest advocacy concerning the rights and belongings of the poorer classes against the unsophisticated greed of unrestricted monopolies known as capitalists, monopolists and corporation thieves. Nowhere is the document so full of rights of capital given priority over the rights of labor, but its every purpose seems to be in the interest and welfare of the laboring man. The suggestions are fearless and spirited, and in most instances feasible. Yet the stand he has taken on the world's fair exhibit is not looked upon generally as the best course for one of his position to have adopted, as no matter how great his good intentions might have been, his idea does not correspond either with public sentiment, or what seems to be the correct side of an important question pertaining to the future advance and growth of the state. If an appropriation from the legislature is not forthcoming, then so far as any attempt at making a proper representation at Chicago is concerned we are everlastingly tabooed. Our greatest hopes are forever blighted, and upon the assembly of the statehood of states in grand array at the great fair, where all the leading nations of the earth will be represented, Oregon will be being lagging. This ought not to be.

The renewed vigor and deep interest with which the important topic of "an open river to the sea" has been resumed, has not only by the press but the public generally ought to be sufficient to impress on the minds of our representatives at congress the degree of anxiety its final adoption is looked forward to. All Oregon, Washington and Idaho are alive to its importance, and relief it would lend to their yearning agricultural and mining sections is such as to justify their earnest endeavors. Nothing but untimely navigation to the sea will permit the development of the country contiguous to the tributaries of the great Columbia, to the extent their natural resources and resources demand, and until the same is given us, it should be the incessant war-cry of every individual who has interests in the welfare of the three states.

The interest manifested in the bill now pending before the legislature providing for the construction of a fish ladder at the falls of the Willamette at this city, and asking for an appropriation of \$5000 therefor, is such as to suggest the great importance of the project. The welfare of the fishing industry of the upper Willamette is brought conspicuously to view in such a measure, and the early completion of a ladder would be conducive of the greatest benefit. But it is hoped that another attempt at furnishing this great necessity will meet with better success than the first one, and if we are to have a ladder let it be one equal to all emergencies if brains and money will build it.

The ENTERPRISE in last week's issue had a list of the improvements that have been made in Oregon City during the past year, and their cost. The list furnished a great deal of information, and shows that the city has made a substantial gain during the past year. In addition the ENTERPRISE had a short description of each firm doing business there. The list of improvements total a total of \$800,000. That with the other improvements that have been made through the growth of our state in population, this travel through our country is an ever increasing burden on the people of our country to keep in repair our roads and bridges.

As you have intimated, it would seem to be only fair that the state should help us to open up this proposed road, which is directly in line of the greater part of this travel by residents of the counties west of the Willamette who cross our free bridge at Oregon City, and pass eastward along our country roads to the Barlow route over the mountains to counties east of them; and the way has been made considerable ever since the opening of the Barlow route in 1845 by that pioneer of our country and state, S. K. Barlow. Augmented by the travel diverted from the route through the Columbia gorge at the time, and ever since the destruction of the Columbia trail by the railroad, the growth of our state in population, this travel through our country is an ever increasing burden on the people of our country to keep in repair our roads and bridges.

The STEAMER Northwest, belonging to the Kellogg Company, and heretofore running on the Columbia river, has come on the Willamette, and is now making regular trips between Portland and Salem, going on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and returning the following days. The Northwest has the reputation of being the ablest and carry the largest load of any boat on the river in proportion to her size and draft, a qualification that especially fits her for this route. Captain Sherman Short is in command, and his popularity on the river is such that the Northwest will be able to build up a prosperous trade.

The Scientific American, published by Munn & Co., is in every respect one of the most reliable scientific periodicals the world affords. Its pages abound with valuable information of every description, to the farmer, merchant and tradesman, promoting progress, industry and intelligence wherever it is read. Every tradesman of the country should subscribe for the Scientific American.

There is a big freight traffic being carried on between Oregon city and up and down river points that is very suggestive of the prominent position she occupies in the commercial world. The larger boats of the lower Columbia are by no means uncommon at the docks since the river has raised, and the daily shipments from the various mills and factories are surprisingly immense.

The ENTERPRISE claims that nearly a million dollars have been expended in Oregon City during the last year for improvements. This is a magnificent showing, but it is nothing compared to what the future has in store for Oregon's great manufacturing town.—Forest Grove Democrat.

BRO. FLAGG, of the Forest Grove Democrat, don't take much stock in Penney's teachings on Cleveland and the Chinese. Flag says: "The fact is, the governor is simply 'playing to the galleries,' and has his ear bent forward listening for the applause."

JUDGE MORELAND, of Portland, concluded his decision last Saturday morning in the case of General Russ Ingalls against Mrs. Harriet Campbell for the guardianship of Little and Ben Holley. Judge C. B. Bellinger was appointed to the place.

Hon. George Bancroft, the historian, author and diplomat, died in the city of Washington last Saturday at 3:40 p. m. His remains were interred in Worcester, Massachusetts, on the 20th.

"SANDY," Olds will be given a new trial and a change of venue. Judge Stearns announced his decision to that effect Tuesday, and designated Washington county as the place for the next trial.

KING KAKANE, of the Hawaiian Islands died in San Francisco last Tuesday. His remains will be consigned to his native land on the United States flag ship Charleston.

IT WILL TAKE \$10,000.

Judge Meidrum's Letter Recommending That Amount.

OREGON CITY, Jan. 14, 1901.

Dear Sir: I wrote you this morning about the proposed road from Baker's Ferry to Eagle Creek, on thinking over this matter and remembering that you told me you thought of asking for \$5000 for that purpose, I conclude to call your attention to some facts which I think will convince you that \$5000 is also inadequate to make a good road. The distance is about seven and a half or eight miles, and all but about one mile of it will be through heavy timber. The probability is that we would use the present country road from near the present crossing of Deep Creek to Eagle Creek along with only one-half mile of the sixty feet wide road, and the cleared timber, which you know is dense over most of the way. To clear off this timber and get the stumps and roots out of the way so as to commence grading and graveling the road bed, would cost in the neighborhood of \$100 per acre. From the end of the bridge to Deep Creek, about four or five miles, the exact distance by survey made by H. H. Johnson, county surveyor, in 1887, being four miles, forty-nine chains and twenty-seven links, being all through heavy timber and requiring heavy grading along steep hillsides. The area of the sixty feet wide strip for the road on this road would be 200 acres, and the area of the strip for road from Deep Creek to edge of Foster prairie, which is about 21.20 acres, two-thirds of this 14.40 acres gives 14.40 acres of heavily timbered land to be cleared before the actual grading of the road can begin, and this clearing, at \$100 per acre (and it would cost about that much) would amount to \$1440. In my judgment you ought to ask for not less than \$10,000 for this work. This may seem a large sum to expend on a wagon road of this length, but, as you have indicated, this is an important link in a line of travel through our country between the eastern and western portions of our state. With this proposed road made through the pass down the Clackamas river the distance would be materially shortened and a good level road over which heavy loads could be hauled, would be substituted for the roads now laid across the hills and deep ravines over which travel is slow and difficult.

Previous to the building of the railroad down the Columbia, there was considerable travel by land through the Columbia gorge over what was known as the Columbia trail. An appropriation made by the state, which considering the development of our resources and our small population at that time must be considered as liberal, was expended in opening a wagon road by that route, and this improvement although not carried to completion, did sufficiently open up the route to admit the passage of teams and wagons. But, in our eagerness to secure a railroad down the Columbia river, the O. R. & N. Co. was permitted to destroy this improvement made at considerable cost to the state, and this travel by teams or on horseback by this route came to an end. But the constant rates on teams, wagons and live stock, charged by the company, which controlled not only the railroad, but also the river traffic, drove many to evade it by crossing the mountains over the Barlow route. This travel through our country by residents of nearly all the northern counties of our state has always been considerable ever since the opening of the Barlow route in 1845 by that pioneer of our country and state, S. K. Barlow. Augmented by the travel diverted from the route through the Columbia gorge at the time, and ever since the destruction of the Columbia trail by the railroad, the growth of our state in population, this travel through our country is an ever increasing burden on the people of our country to keep in repair our roads and bridges.

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Hubbard and Woodburn are on the tip of expectancy says the Independent, on account of the supposed petroleum discoveries. Several months ago E. E. Stevens gave a well for H. L. Mills, who lives two miles east of Eugene. Mr. Stevens, on returning to his work one morning, found an immense quantity of oil on top of the water. A thorough examination showed that the oil was several inches thick and flowed abundantly. A sample was sent to San Francisco and was pronounced to be of the very best of petroleum. A company was secretly organized to develop the prospects and their agents are bonding all the property in this part of the country. An expert from Pennsylvania has traced the oil through Hubbard and claims that its fountain is on the farm of Nick Miller, a mile north of this city. A representative of this paper examined the swampy ground for several hundred yards is covered with plainly discernible oil. The company has bonded Mr. Miller's farm and said will immediately commence drilling there and on the farm of Mr. Mills. A thorough examination will be made next week by a reporter and a long article will be the result.

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Hubbard and Woodburn are on the tip of expectancy says the Independent, on account of the supposed petroleum discoveries. Several months ago E. E. Stevens gave a well for H. L. Mills, who lives two miles east of Eugene. Mr. Stevens, on returning to his work one morning, found an immense quantity of oil on top of the water. A thorough examination showed that the oil was several inches thick and flowed abundantly. A sample was sent to San Francisco and was pronounced to be of the very best of petroleum. A company was secretly organized to develop the prospects and their agents are bonding all the property in this part of the country. An expert from Pennsylvania has traced the oil through Hubbard and claims that its fountain is on the farm of Nick Miller, a mile north of this city. A representative of this paper examined the swampy ground for several hundred yards is covered with plainly discernible oil. The company has bonded Mr. Miller's farm and said will immediately commence drilling there and on the farm of Mr. Mills. A thorough examination will be made next week by a reporter and a long article will be the result.

As you have intimated, it would seem to be only fair that the state should help us to open up this proposed road, which is directly in line of the greater part of this travel by residents of the counties west of the Willamette who cross our free bridge at Oregon City, and pass eastward along our country roads to the Barlow route over the mountains to counties east of them; and the way has been made considerable ever since the opening of the Barlow route in 1845 by that pioneer of our country and state, S. K. Barlow. Augmented by the travel diverted from the route through the Columbia gorge at the time, and ever since the destruction of the Columbia trail by the railroad, the growth of our state in population, this travel through our country is an ever increasing burden on the people of our country to keep in repair our roads and bridges.

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