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COTTAGE GROVE, OREGON, TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 1910

SOUTH LANE BRIDGES NEGLECTED

Another demonstration of the little attention given to the roads and bridges of South Lane county on the part of the county court, was the condition of the county bridge on Silk Creek one-half mile west of Cottage Grove, which collapsed last Wednesday under a very ordinary load, in which wreck two valuable teams and driver narrowly escaped death. This bridge had been built and subjected to heavy traffic for 12 years and should not have been allowed to remain in the rickety and decayed condition which it has been for the past year. As has been stated before, no three or four men are competent to properly administer the affairs of such large, populous and unwieldy counties as Lane and Douglas, which unintentional neglect on the part of their respective county courts are liable to occasion many such disasters and even more serious ones in remote sections of these counties. This is among one of the many reasons why Nesmith county should be created from a portion of Lane and Douglas, that such menaces to life and property may be removed by closer application to the affairs of the territory now remote from the old county seats.

Here is a few headings which appeared in the last issue of the Ashland Valley Record, which demonstrates the trend of the reading matter which followed and the position of that paper on the creation of Nesmith county: "The Eugene hog pulls off its efforts at an anti-Nesmith county opposition at Roseburg. Douglas county seat takes small interest in the matter, though pulled off in that city. Cottage Grove view of Senator Ike Bingham. The Leader pronounces him a base ingrate toward the town which boosted him into what prominence and influence he holds." The Record also published the Nesmith cartoon from the Oregonian which it headed, "Representatives from the hog district in action," referring to the Roseburg-Eugene knocker meeting. These and other expressions from the state press looks mighty good for Nesmith. Our friends are many.

A reproach to the Oregon legislature and those senators and representatives responsible for the action was the slaughter of the state normal schools. This action has had the effect to greatly discredit Oregon in the estimation of the people east of the Rockies and in California and Washington.

The Nesmith fight ought to make the bones of the original rattle.—Albany Democrat.

INFLUENTIAL FRIENDS OF NESMITH

The following prominent newspapers of Oregon have already come out boldly in favor of the creation of Nesmith county and a Greater Oregon: Portland Daily Oregonian, Salem Capital Journal, Salem Statesman, Pacific Home-Steader, Ashland Valley Record, Medford Tribune-Mail, Brownsville Times, Milton Eagle, Hood River Glacier and News Letter.

In discussing the forthcoming municipal election, the Leader has ascertained that the voters of the various wards are beginning to cast about for good material to represent their interests in the council chamber during the forthcoming year. From the first ward comes the name of C. W. Wallace, of the mercantile firm of Rees-Wallace company, who besides being a successful business man, is also a property holder and a conservative booster for a Greater Cottage Grove, which it appears, will be the paramount issue this year, all factions being united on one great proposition, the upbuilding and advancement of Cottage Grove. The other two wards have a number of prospective candidates for councilmen, the strongest man not as yet having developed, so far as we can learn. However, the material is in sight for a live, progressive, yet conservative council for 1910.

The Albany Commercial Club has given the editor of the Albany Herald a complimentary membership. What is this old world coming to, anyway? Most commercial clubs want the editor to donate all the space possible to boom the community and then ask him to contribute as much cash for booster purposes as the next one.

It is probable that Halley's comet will be visible to the keen-sighted the latter part of next week, when the moon will be below the horizon during the early evening hours. At present the wanderer can probably be seen with a strong field glass.

Eugene and Roseburg will raise a big fund to be used in knocking the Nesmith county—Greater Oregon—movement. It's a shame to throw away money that way.

A new modern opera house with a large, conveniently arranged stage should be among Cottage Grove's improvements this year.

There are cities in Oregon that are badly in need of a spring-time municipal house-cleaning.—Register. You are right, alright.

COLONEL HOFER'S BOOSTER MEETING

One of the largest and most representative gatherings of business men and citizens ever assembled in the Commercial Club rooms was the crowd which greeted Col. E. Hofer, editor of the Salem Journal and President of the Willamette Valley Development League Monday, who is put on a big boosting tour of Western Oregon. The Colonel was met at the train in the afternoon by a crowd of local boosters and escorted to Hotel Oregon. In the evening the Cottage Grove band played some lively numbers while the crowd was gathering at the Commercial Club rooms and the addresses were interspersed with music by Nelson's orchestra. The meeting was called to order by President Hazelton of the Commercial Club, who announced that 101 new members were admitted into the Commercial club at its last meeting and he announced 20 more names for admission on this occasion and they were voted in without delay. This makes the Cottage Grove Commercial club one of the strongest organizations of its kind in the Willamette valley.

Col. Hofer was introduced by President Hazelton. He said he was given an agreeable surprise by the Cottage Grove boosters who assembled at Creswell sixty strong last Friday evening to assist in boosting for the proposed new Creswell high school building. He said one of his first oratorical stunts was pulled off at Cottage Grove at a Fourth of July celebration twenty years ago and that three young men which he met that day were before him tonight, Col. R. M. Veatch, Dr. W. W. Oglesby and Hon. J. W. Baker, though not as young as they used to be. On that occasion, Mr. Hofer said Editor Horace Mann of the old Cottage Grove Messenger, now extinct, was master of ceremonies.

Col. Hofer paid the large local Commercial club a great compliment and said the possibilities of this enterprising community with its vast and varied natural resources, was hard to comprehend. He commended heartily Booster Conley upon the good promotion work he is accomplishing for the community and admonished the club to encourage and assist him as much as possible. He said he was pleased to note that even the Cottage Grove ministers were boosters and members of the Commercial club and he also paid his compliments to the Leader and Sentinel. He gave the Commercial club the inside information that these live local papers could be used to advantage in the promotion work and Nesmith county cause. He said a local booster had been preaching his irrigation hobby to him all afternoon, but had failed to come through with the goods. Here all eyes were turned on J. F. Spray. He said Cottage Grove was fortunate in securing such citizens as Messrs. Kem and Shinn, who had purchased our light plant, was building it up, putting their money in homes here and were closing up all outside interests and demonstrating their faith in this city by investing all of their means here. The Colonel said he could remember when he and "Rosy," referring to F. H. Rosenberg, were about the only boosters in Cottage Grove on such occasions as this, but that now the town was full of them. He said his home town Salem, had at last woke up, paved several miles of streets, and was growing and expanding in every direction. Mossbacks who declared the expense would bankrupt the town had seen their property interests double in valuation in a single year and were now enthusiastic boosters. One lot that he was interested in securing for a society for \$8000 was worth \$20,000 in five months and an offer of \$14,000 for it was turned down early after its purchase. This is what paved streets are doing for Salem. The speaker said Eugene was the pride of the Willamette Valley and he was proud of that city, the name of which to this day causes cold chills to play up and down the spinal column of the mossbacks whenever it is spoken. The more you dig down in your pockets for money for public improvements the faster the increase in your property values. Cottage Grove, he said, had greater advantages and resources

in its saw mills, mines and orchards than Salem and all that was needed was judicious boosting. He said Mr. Tullixson, of North Dakota had come in on the afternoon train with him to make Cottage Grove his home after having looked over Washington and the lower Willamette. The Colonel called Mr. Tullixson to his feet that the audience might see him and the stranger was greeted with cheers. Mr. Hofer said "So invigorating and congenial is your climate that men of sixty can accomplish results here that a man of forty can not accomplish in the east." This seemed to please a certain real estate man and a well known local pedagogue. He said every dollar put into judicious promotion work will be returned to a town four fold. He said Cottage Grove was the most unselfish and hospitable town on the Oregon map. "You seem to want to see all of your neighboring towns grow and prosper and have a glad hand and a hospitable board for every stranger or visitor. This seems to be a young man's town, young fellows at the head of firms on all your streets, hence the enterprise, push and public spirit for which the Grove is famous. Referring to the proposed creation of Nesmith county, the Colonel said he had been on the affirmative side of every new county question which had come up in Oregon in the past decade and he could not go back on this record at this late day. He said, "I only regret that there is not ten new counties to vote for in this great and rapidly growing state at the forthcoming election instead of one." He paid a glowing tribute to the memory of Senator Nesmith, and said the name alone insures the success of our new county movement and that no more fitting honor could be bestowed to the memory of an honored pioneer Oregon statesman. The Colonel closed his address by relating a humorous story concerning "Buckskin Bob" of west Lane county and his new town plat, which we decline to publish from the fact that it might cause a stampede of local investors to the new townsite.

While the banquet was being prepared Mr. Kem was called and delivered a very interesting address along the same line pursued by Colonel Hofer. Following the banquet or luncheon, a smoker and general good time was enjoyed by the boosters. Creswell and many other outside points were represented at this big booster meeting.

CHURCH NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

House filling congregations at the Methodist Church last Sunday both morning and evening. More people took of the sacrament than at any other time. Ten new scholars of the Sabbath school enrolled during the past two weeks. The coming Lord's day at 11 a. m. public worship with sermon by pastor on "What a preacher heard, saw and experienced in church." People's popular service at 7:30 with address by Robert Sutcliffe on "Methodism and the Children." This is the last and most important lecture of the present series. Solo by F. H. Hall. You cannot afford to miss this. Will all ladies put a coin into their glove for the offering. Bible school at 10 a. m. Epworth League devotional service conducted by Miss Allie Phillips at 6:30 p. m. A hearty welcome to any or all of these gatherings.

The members and friends of the Methodist Church are looking forward with great expectancy to the services of Easter Sunday. A

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March 11—"A Farmer's Trip to and from Prince Edward's Island in Winter." Rev. Robert Sutcliffe.
March 18—"Chains, Chains, Gumps." Prof. L. R. Alderman.
March 25—"Twelve Hours in a Sausage World, or a Visit to Mammoth Cave." Supr. E. K. Barnes.
Date Supplied Later
"Education." Rev. E. G. Grant.
"Adaptation." Rev. Schlem C. Adams.
"Some Observations on Philippine Islands." Rev. W. A. Ekins.

AT THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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Spring will finally come.