

**Lane County Leader**  
COTTAGE GROVE, - OREGON.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY  
W. C. CONNER, Editor and Proprietor

Entered at the Cottage Grove post-office as second-class matter.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES.**  
ONE YEAR \$1.50  
SIX MONTHS .75  
THREE MONTHS .50

It paid in advance but if not so paid a uniform rate of \$2.00 per year will be charged. Advertising rates made known upon application.

FRIDAY MARCH 13, 1903

**BACK TO THE OLD HOME**

To Direct the Destinies of the Paper on Which we Learned the Printer's Trade.

It seems somewhat a queer coincidence that after ten years absence we should return to the pleasant scenes and happy haunts of our boyhood days and assume the management and ownership of the newspaper on which we learned the printer's trade and was instrumental in establishing nearly fifteen years ago. It will be remembered by the old residents and pioneers of this city and surrounding country that about fifteen years ago we became associated with F. W. Chause, now of the Grants Pass Observer, in the publication of the LEADER, which was founded and at that time issued upstairs in the building near the depot now occupied by Sehley's grocery store. About two years thereafter the paper was purchased by E. P. Thorp, now deceased, who consolidated the Drain Echo with the LEADER and gave the paper the rather cumbersome hyphenated title of "Cottage Grove Echo-Leader." The writer remained with Mr. Thorp in the capacity of associate editor for about three years when a partnership was formed and soon thereafter the Enterprise was established at Riddle, Oregon, and conducted by the partnership, jointly with the LEADER. The first issue of the Enterprise appeared June 10, 1893, and remained under the personal management of the writer at Riddle and Myrtle Point for six years, when four years ago we severed our relations with that paper to purchase and conduct the Roseburg Semi-Weekly Plaindealer, the publication of which paper proved the most profitable and successful of our fourteen years of newspaper work.

Upon the death of Editor Thorp in February, 1897, the LEADER and plant was purchased by L. F. Wooley, who has very ably conducted the paper since that time, and whom we now succeed as editor and proprietor of this paper. Mr. Wooley, it appears, has been accorded a liberal share of the patronage of the wide-awake, enterprising business and professional men of the town, a patronage we hope the paper will continue to merit. We have few promises to make in assuming the management of the LEADER, other than it shall be our earnest endeavor to give the town and South Lane County a live, newsy and progressive newspaper. The political principles of the writer are firmly fixed and generally known, having never been connected with other than a Republican newspaper, but we will refrain from making a radical partisan organ of the LEADER, preferring to devote its columns more to the advancement and up-building of the town and tributary country by exploiting the great undeveloped resources of this favored section of our grand old Oregon.

However, we reserve the right to discuss political as well as current issues from our own particular view point, according to all others the same freedom in believing, thinking and expression of sentiment which we enjoy.

We have always found it a safe rule to attend to our own business and not that of others. Our opinions will be found in the LEADER each week on the different questions of interest to the people and they will find us ever watchful and vigilant in working to their interests and battling against that

which we believe will work an injury to them.

When we purchased the LEADER and moved to Lane county we came to make it our home. We are a permanent fixture here; we like the people; we like the country; we like Cottage Grove, and care nothing for the criticisms of those who by nature are of a fault-finding and of a jealous disposition. Our columns are too valuable to waste in controversy and we hope we will not be compelled to engage in any childish gibberish.

We think Cottage Grove has an exceedingly bright future and with its varied and valuable natural resources—its rich mines, extensive forests and fertile farms,—its commanding location, is destined to become a thriving commercial city and one of the most important points in Western Oregon, at no far distant date.

We will state in conclusion that it will be a source of great pleasure to meet our many old time friends at our office or home and renew old acquaintanceship, while those who have cast their lot in this city in later years we will also be glad to meet and extend the same cordial welcome. Soliciting a liberal share of public patronage in the way of advertising, subscriptions and job printing, we are,

Respectfully yours,  
W. C. CONNER.

The Lane County LEADER—plain outspoken, fearless and well liked. Subscribe now!

A revised version of an old motto is: "Be sure you are right, and then sit down and think it over."

Friday and the 13th. A hard combination of dates for the first issue of the Lane County LEADER.

Peary says that for \$150,000 he will try again to get to the North Pole. So would many another man.

What has become of the old fashioned father who took a whip and held heart to heart talks with his son out in the barn?

Mr Rockefeller lives on crackers and milk. He is worth \$300,000,000 and has no stomach. The man with a good stomach and little money is better off.

If cold contracts, why is it that one will make a fellow's head feel as big as a house, is the question foremost in the minds of a good many of our people just now.

A Kansas Judge has decided that the Bible may be read in the public schools, also that theaters may do business on Sundays. Evidently he expects to run for office again.

\$1,000,000 spent on the mouth of the Columbia will be one of the most expensive dental jobs on record, but it will be worth it to the whole body of the Northwest.—EX.

Those Oregon towns which were slow in getting their immigration literature into the hands of the Harriman Immigration Bureau may now have the unpleasant experience of seeing the homeseekers passing by to other towns whose advantages were made known to them before they left the east.

Help a dog out of a ditch and no matter what kind of a dog he is, a town dog a country dog, educated or illiterate, aristocratic or plebian, he will wag his tail to paralysis and exhaust every drop of blood in his veins at your command. Help a man out of a ditch and what follows depends very much on his breed. The more we see of some men the better we like dogs.

While Cottage Grove has been making a very satisfactory and steady growth the past few years the LEADER has good reasons to believe that the present year will far eclipse anything the town has yet experienced in the way of improvements, growth and developments. Forces are at work in the Bohemia mines and the timber section herabouts, which if they materialize will make Cottage Grove a much larger and more important city than it is today.

**Compliments of the Press.**

"A little flattery now and then is relished by the wisest men."

W. C. Conner, formerly editor of the Roseburg Plaindealer, has bought the Cottage Grove LEADER and will soon take charge. Conner is a rustling journalist.—Junction Times.

It is announced that the LEADER has changed hands, Mr Wooley retiring and W. C. Conner, of Roseburg, to take charge on or about March 1st, Mr Conner is well known here, this having been his former home. He is a good newspaper man and no doubt will give the patrons of the LEADER a good, wideawake newspaper.—Bohemia Nugget.

W. C. Conner has disposed of his interest in the Roseburg Plaindealer to his partner, H. H. Brookes. Mr Conner is one of the best newspaper men in the state, and during the time he has been connected with the Plaindealer has built it up to one of the best country papers in Oregon. It is reported that he will go into the newspaper business at Cottage Grove.—Myrtle Point Enterprise.

In severing our business connections with W. C. Conner we do so with great reluctance as we have found him to be in every way a thorough-going business man and Christian gentleman. We learn that he intends to enter into the newspaper business at Cottage Grove and the Plaindealer bespeaks for him a good patronage and the good will of the citizens of that community, for he is a first class newspaper and business man.—Roseburg Plaindealer.

Editor W. C. Conner of the Plaindealer has disposed of his interests in that paper to his partner H. H. Brookes. We understand that the Cottage Grove LEADER has changed hands and believe that Mr Conner is the new proprietor. If this is the case Cottage Grove can justly congratulate itself on having one of the best newspaper men in Oregon, as well as another truly honorable and public spirited citizen within its limits. Mr Conner was the power behind the pen that brought the Plaindealer out of the lurch, and we heartily wish for him the success he so deserves no matter where he may see fit to cast his lot in the future.—Gardiner Gazette.

W. C. Conner formerly, editor of the Roseburg Plaindealer, has bought the Cottage Grove LEADER and will soon take charge. W. C. is a live journalist.—Daily Eugene Register.

Governor Chamberlain has issued a writ ordering that a special election be held Monday, June 1, for the purpose of electing a congressman to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Thomas H. Tongue. The writ will be printed and forwarded to the several sheriffs in a day or two. The republican congressional committee will be called together, the democrats having no congressional committee in this district will act through the State Central committeemen and both parties will fix dates for holding congressional conventions, and then each county committee will fix dates for primaries and county conventions for the purpose of selecting delegates to the congressional conventions. When the congressional conventions have named their candidates, the nominations will be filed with the secretary of state, and that officer will certify the nominations to the county clerks, who will prepare the ballots. The nominations must be filed not less than 45 days prior to the election.

It is now Senator Fulton in all that the title means. Mr. Fulton was sworn in at Washington Thursday and is now a member of the special session.

A. C. Jacobson has purchased the Ashland Town Talk of S. L. Burton who recently purchased the plant of Geo. F. Stanley. Mr. Burton was a newspaper man of experience but became ill and was forced to sell out. Mr. Jacobson, the new proprietor, is a good printer, and his first move is to change the name of the paper to the Ashland Tribune.

1903 LURCH'S  
WE WANT YOUR TRADE  
SPRING and SUMMER  
1903 LURCH'S

Nothing startling about that fact, as any merchant would tell you if you should ask him, but in this particular case we are going to concede something in order to make you a customer, if you are not already trading with us. We understand that everyone desires to make the dollars go as far as possible, and we intend to meet you half-way on this kind of a basis by giving you as good or better values than you have ever secured before. This includes all of our present stock as well as the elegant new spring and summer goods which will be on the shelves and ready for display soon. Be sure to come in and look over the stock

**WANT A NEW COUNTY**

North Douglas Citizen Takes a Practical View of County Division.

COMSTOCK, ORE., March 10, 1903.

EDITOR LEADER—I desire, with your consent, to present a little matter through the columns of your valuable paper, which I think will meet the approval of every taxpayer and citizen of South Lane and North Douglas counties. It has been demonstrated time and again that Roseburg and Eugene have little interest in common with those sections of the county bordering on the division line of the respective counties—Douglas and Lane. And on the other hand we of North Douglas have no common interests with Oakland, Roseburg or the South end of Douglas county. Roseburg is far more interested in the development of the Coos Bay country and the establishment of transportation facilities between the two points than she is in the development of the coast harbor town of her own county—Gardiner, the commanding little seaport at the mouth of the Umpqua river. In this connection, practically the same may be said of Eugene, so far as the Bohemia mines, Black Butte, Divide and Lorane are concerned. It is, however, an indisputable fact that South Lane and North Douglas have common interests and are so located geographically that there should be some provision made for the consolidation of interests under the direction of a distinctive county organization.

Take the extensive lumbering, wood, piling and mining interests of the country bordering on the division line of Lane and Douglas counties. The development of these extensive interests are constantly hampered and delayed for want of concerted action on the part of the two respective county boards in making roads, bridges and other much needed improvements. In particular is the inconvenience of two separate county governments noticeable in the development and transaction of the business, legal, and otherwise, of the important Bohemia mining district, and no one can gainsay that this promising mining district, should not be located in one county. If we had a separate county organized from South Lane and North Douglas we could more thoroughly and practically improve our roads, build new roads and bridges and materially hasten the development of the wonderful resources of this favored section, which now being on the border of the two counties is shamefully neglected. The expense to the taxpayers of this section would be no greater than they are at present in keeping up the improvements on the expensive bridges at Eugene, Springfield, Coburg, McKenzie and Harrisburg in Lane, or Roseburg, Winston, Riddle, Winchester and Coles Valley in Douglas.

With the establishment of a new county we could go to our own delegation in Congress and say we wanted a jetty at the mouth of the Umpqua river and we would get it

and thus be able to make one of the finest little harbors on the Pacific coast with Gardiner as the Port. We do not advocate this proposition from any selfish motive whatever, but for the good of our people and the country generally. It is a matter which general natural conditions will force to a definite conclusion sooner or later, and why not the present generation get some benefit from the improved condition this movement if brought to a successful conclusion would bring about?

Now is the time for concerted action on the part of all the people who would be benefited by the concentration of the interest of this section of the country under a common county government. Two years hence will be time for action.

Respectfully,  
TAXPAYER.

**Our Fine New Printing Plant.**

The LEADER now has one of the most modern and finely equipped printing plants in Lane county. It comprises a 4100 pound Hoe cylinder power press, capacity 1500 papers an hour; an 1800 pound Chandler & Price power job press; a 900 pound Chandler & Price paper cutter; a Success automatic stapler or pamphlet binding machine; Golding brass rule and lead cutter, and over one hundred cases of the latest faces of advertising and job printing type, not including wood type for poster printing. All of our presses are operated by a 12 inch Pelton water motor. Call and see our plant and send in your orders for all kinds of printing. We can please patrons.

Do you want some fine all wool underwear, regular \$1.25 to \$1.75 goods at

75c Ladies union suits, just the weight, at the suit

25c All solid leather shoes 3 pairs for \$1.00

Rubber Goods—overalls, a good supply at less than the other store

The best shoes for ladies \$1.40 and \$1.50. You pay for these goods \$2 to \$2.50

Closing out a lot of mens pants at

\$1.90 worth from \$2 to \$3.50

Gilbert & Welch

Next Door to Benson's Drug Store

Subscribe for the LEADER and get all the local, state and general news

CALL MAIN 34  
FOR PRICES ON FRESH GROCERIES  
SKILLMAN AND BENSON

1903 is bringing splendid results for...  
"The Richardson House"  
In January we sold eight pianos and organs. In February four pianos and three organs. And this month we have already sold one of our finest Needham pianos, and several organs, besides a vast amount of small goods.  
PROSPECTS ARE LOOMING UP.  
The Richardson Music House Cottage Grove and Roseburg