

LANE COUNTY LEADER

COTTAGE GROVE OREGON

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A. CLIFFORD GAGE, Editor and Publisher

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FRIDAY JUNE 24, 1904

"DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY."

The Oregonian on Monday last used the above caption over an extract from a country weekly. In which the idea was set forth that "the growth of a commercial center is dependent on the growth and prosperity of the country surrounding and tributary to it."

The meat of the matter is conveyed and embodied in the words the Oregonian has chosen for a title. "Development of the Country" means the growth of the commercial center. Accordingly the two are closely allied, both as to the interests of one, which conserve interests of the other, and by their united efforts for their mutual betterment.

Following this analysis it is true that the one can do without the other, but the other can not do without the one. For instance Portland could not exist without the country back of it. On the other side the country could exist without Portland, for its product would find other means of egress. Not that such a (for Portland) lamentable exigency is possible or probable, but only to show the importance of the country with relation to the central point of commercial interest. Like the complicated parts of a huge mill, Portland absorbs the products fed into its channels of trade and by a process as well regulated as that of the most complicated yet smooth going machine turns them out again to the world at large. Much of the timber, grain, fruits, stock, and mineral wealth of the country goes through the avenues of Portland trade. Its people are fed and sheltered by the produce of the soil surrounding it.

It is not without good reason, then, that Portland stands for the interests of the rich, fertile and expansive country lying all about it. Nor is it to be wondered that Portland eyes see in the future of Oregon substantial things for Oregon people. It is probable that for this reason Portland people are going to give next year, with the assistance of the people of the State, an exposition of the riches, the resources and the beauty of Oregon.

And for these reasons a cry went up in Portland against the awarding of Government contracts in San Francisco for Oregon rails for shipment to Manila at a price in advance of Portland bids. The channel of trade for all Oregon is logically through the city of Portland, as the nearest and most direct, cheapest and safest, route of transportation to the seaboard. And the "howl" was a loud one—the responsibility was placed on the man who permitted the San Francisco bidders to outstrip those at Portland, even though their contract was secured at a higher price for future, than that of Oregon men for immediate delivery. It can hardly be thought that the railroads are a party to the deal on account of the longer haul to San Francisco, for the railroads are equally concerned with all others in Oregon in advancing the interests of both urban and suburban trade.

As to the "howl," if it be not effective in the present instance—if it even shall be counted against Portland and her brood of smaller cities throughout the Willamette valley and all Oregon, in awarding contracts of the near future—it will serve to show unity of

interests as between mart and rural community. Portland evidently recognizes this relationship and when all discern the strength that lies in concerted action there will be no lack of consideration for the claims of Oregon and the northwest: the city may depend on the country not only for signs of her trade but for endorsement of her policy, and rigid resentment of an unjust diversion of her rightful share in Government patronage as well as in the commerce of the world. The State of Oregon is providing at Portland every possible facility for conservation of deep-sea shipping interests. The new dry-docks with low dock charges, new fire fighting steamers, river and harbor improvements constantly being carried on, with increase of wharf accommodation, make the Port of Portland available to the commerce of all the seas.

One is reminded of the tabernacle of the Mormons when viewing the Assembly hall of the Chautauquas at Gladstone Park, Oregon City. This form of architecture was no doubt employed for the purpose of securing proper acoustics. Sessions of Chautauqua involve much public speaking and reading, requiring clear enunciation, a quality most surely carried by the oval or egg-shell roof. Those who have visited Salt Lake City and entered the auditorium of the tabernacle have been asked to listen to the sound of a pin dropped on the choir rail and readily heard at the other end of the building more than two hundred feet away. The structure at Oregon City will be the scene of the eleventh annual assembly of the Willamette Valley Chautauqua Association, July 12-24. A programme of interest is in prospect for the session, including lectures by noted speakers from the Eastern states and prominent educators of this state. Special low rates will prevail on the railroads.

Sad intelligence comes from San Francisco of the suicide in Golden Gate Park of George Aspdin, assistant Sunday editor of the San Francisco Call. Aspdin was a genial gentleman, able and well qualified for the work in which he was engaged. The magazine section of the Call was principally under his control and his efforts were largely instrumental in making its popularity.

Wm. H. Lincoln has almost completed the second cottage he has built in Cottage Grove since January 1, 1904. The house Mr. Lincoln now occupies was completed only a month ago. The confidence of this gentleman in the future of Cottage Grove has prompted him to build these dwellings while lumber is at a low figure. With many others here he is sure of the future of the city and does not hesitate to invest his money in substantial improvement that not only will benefit the town but will prove a good and practical investment. It is true that last year many prospective settlers were turned away because they could not secure houses and were disinclined to await while homes were built for them. Consequently these people located in other towns. Those who build during the present year will find their investment a good one.

"Lane County is determined," says an exchange, "that Blue River district shall not lack for good roads." It then adds that "transportation is as essential to the making of good mines as is the mineral itself." Not only is the subject of good roads one vital to the mines of the Blue River district, but to the mines of the Bohemia district as well—a point to be borne in mind by the county authorities of Lane county.

The following from the Portland Evening Telegram of Saturday June 18th, is in kindly tone and is sincerely appreciated: We note a change of management in that enterprising Cottage Grove paper, the Lane County LEADER, A. Clifford Gage assuming control as editor and publisher. Mr. Gage is a bright and well-known newspaper man who has been in the harness from boyhood. In the particular field in which his energies have been expended he has been eminently successful. We bespeak for him the same good fortune as editor of the LEADER. The people of Cottage

Grove and the adjacent country where this new paper circulates will not be slow to recognize the ability of Mr. Gage to serve their interests, and upon the basis of that service and his own estimable personality, we deem that he is destined to reap due honor and profit.

There is published in the Columbia River and Oregon Timberman for June an excellent portrait of Hon. I. H. Bingham, recently elected to the House of Representatives of the Oregon State Legislature. Mr. Bingham is one of seven lumbermen who will serve in the next session, six of them being in the lower house and one, Senator-elect R. A. Booth of Eugene, in the upper. The interests of Lane county will thus be well represented and the interests of the great lumber producing section of the United States will have the careful attention of these gentlemen. The Timberman is replete with news of the lumberworld and its June issue is one of general interest.

Workmen drilling a well at Henderson station, near Eugene, heard subterranean noises and became so frightened that they quit work. One man declared the noise was loud as if the Willamette river were falling one hundred feet over a precipice. This phenomenon may prove as fallacious as Portland's recent earthquake, which was caused by explosion of a dynamite blast beneath the waters of the Willamette. It is not safe to believe all you hear.

A lumber merchant informs the Roseburg Review that in San Francisco there is favorable outlook for good lumber sales "later on." This is really true. The increasing demand for building material will create a favorable market and the set back experienced by reason of recent instability of transportation rates will prove merely an incident in the history of the great timber trade of the northwest.

State Game Warden J. W. Baker has made a good record in the office. About the only offense that seems really chargeable against him is that he is a Democrat and the appointee of a Democratic Governor. It would seem that his detractors should look for some more plausible reason for attack.

It costs almost 78 million dollars per annum to pay the bills of the regular army and about 62 million to run the navy, yet Portland was jobbed out of a contract on Oregon oats for the army.

Made a Rich Strike.

Probably one of the richest mining strikes made in Southern Oregon for a number of years was the one accidentally made on Monday, June 6, 1904, on Sucker creek, by Ray Briggs. The story of the find, as given by W. E. Gilmore, is here told: Briggs was out hunting and after a hard half day's hunt for game, of which he found none, he sat down to eat his lunch, tired and discouraged, but as he ate he saw protruding from the hill side a small piece of quartz. "There was gold in that quartz and so plentiful was it that Briggs went wild, as it were, and, forgetful of the fact that he was tired and hungry, he began kicking about for more pieces of quartz. His efforts were crowned with success and in a very short time he discovered a vein of ore which was fabulously rich in gold. From this vein he took one large chunk of quartz, weighing about forty pounds, and a goodly number of smaller pieces of flat rock were gathered. These he put in a sack and started for his home, but after going some distance, he remembered that he had neglected to mark the place. He laid down his sack of quartz and gun and returned to the vein and properly marked its location, and upon returning to where he thought he had deposited his sack, he failed to find it. He then went wild a second time but after a couple of hours' hunting he found the lost articles and started home again. Upon reaching home he began the work of "mortaring out" the gold and from the forty pound chunk he took an even \$700.

The young man took into his confidence James Howard, formerly

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of Medford, and a son of C. J. Howard, they went back to the discovery and made a more thorough examination. They found a twenty foot ledge of rock that assayed \$20 to the ton and a pay chute from six to eight inches in width, the value of which is difficult to estimate, but it is the vein from which the \$700 chunk was taken and from which \$500 was taken afterwards.

This discovery is on unsurveyed government land and it is told that many people living thereabouts have filed mining claims.

An instance in connection with this find which is related is that there was so much gold and so little quartz in one small chunk that Jim Howard, with a hammer, pounded it into a square chunk, in fact could have moulded it into any shape.

Birthday Party.

On Saturday evening Mr. and Mrs. P. D. Knowlton tendered their daughter Miss Katie a birthday party at the family residence on Wall street, the occasion being her 15th birthday. The evening was passed in games and music. Finish and whist were succeeded by a contest designated "printer's pie," in which letters in the names of Coast cities were jumbled into a form unrecognizable. The winners in this amusing contest were Miss Stella Cochlin and Stewart McGilvray. Instrumental solos, Miss Fay Brown and Wm. Thompson, Miss Katie, the hostess, gave vocal solos. Refreshments were served and at a late hour the company bade the young lady good-night with a promise to come again when she is sweet sixteen. There were present the following: Misses Stella Cochlin, Agnes Woolley, Lindly Welch, Faye Brown, Etna Holterman, Lizzie Veatch, Ruth, and Ethel Knowlton, Crete Dutton, Messrs. Orvel Knapp, Harry Benson, James Harms, James Brown, Gay Van Riper, Bert Burrows, Wm. Thompson, Orville Taylor, Chester Vandenberg, Will Sherwood, Stewart McGilvray, Ren Sanford, Harry Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Knowlton, Mrs. F. S. Hinds and Mrs. McKinney.

Willamette Valley Chautauqua Association.

The Willamette Valley Chautauqua Association will meet at Gladstone Park, near Oregon City, July 12th to 24th, 1904, inclusive. The Southern Pacific Co. will make reduced rates on the certificate plan for this occasion. Call on any Southern Pacific Agent for advertising matter.

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