

The Herald

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FRIDAY, MAY 7, 1909.

The special city election is over and the result is better than was expected for a time. The vote on the question of changing the charter so as to allow the people the right to vote on bonding the city for \$20,000 failed to carry by three votes. This would have been reduced if not overcome had some of the progressives not forgotten that the poles closed at three o'clock. However we feel gratified that the vote was as good as recorded. It shows that with a little thought along this line, that the next time the matter comes up that it will carry by a good majority. Then there will come the matter of submitting the bonding proposition to the people. No doubt this will be voted down the first time, but it will keep coming up until it carries and we have the capital to put in a good water system. There are some who argue that \$20,000 will not be near enough to put in a water system, but if they will take the trouble to investigate, provided they can get the inside figures, they will find that the expense of putting water systems is not so great as is generally supposed. As soon as possible we will get figures and publish them showing the actual cost of building and maintaining systems such as we need. Amending the charter so as to retain the road tax, carried by a good margin, but it should have been unanimous. This town shows the need of good work on the streets. A sample of how some of the work is done here could have been seen here last week when a lot of dirt was hauled in from the country and spread on Main street. With the tax we can get gravel, if nothing better is offered and make the streets much better, but it is hoped some method of covering the streets with fine crushed rock may be had.

A perusal of the Jury list for the May term of court shows an almost unbroken line of farmers. This augurs well for the people. From this list a Grand Jury can be chosen upon which may be depended the finding of indictments against the illicit liquor sellers of this county. There never was in the history of the world but one other organization that had such a strong hold on the public as the liquor dealers of this country and that was the Assassins of ancient Asia. The liquor dealers go to almost the same lengths to protect their nefarious business. Over in Tillamook county they have threatened the life of Judge Gallaway if he convicts one of their number for illicit selling of liquor. At best they are an unlawful association and if they resort to violence the law abiding

citizens should organize and visit summary justice on the whole bunch. If every saloon keeper and illicit liquor dealer in the United States was wiped off the face of the earth at one fell stroke, the country would be millions of dollars better off, not to say anything of the moral and physical benefits to accrue from such a consumation. Polk county will pass through a strenuous time during the coming eighteen months and it is up to the better element to be ever watchful or the county will go wet at the next election. Among the questions asked of jurors in the recent fake trials held in Dallas was "Would you give the same consideration to the testimony of a detective as you would to that of your neighbor?", or words to that effect. It seems that the oath of a detective in the liquor selling cases is no good, but in any other case it is perfectly good. Why this distinction?

Portland Letter.

Portland, Oregon, May 3, 1909. The Oregon palate is never without a relish for a good warm soaking, growing rain, but never did it taste more like a full meal than during the last days of dry, record-breaking April.

"Raise more hogs and get more wealth by sending the Oregon Brand of packing house products to every market of the world" is a motto that should be announced from every commercial organization in the state.

The Horse and Cattle sale in Portland has opened the eyes of livestock breeders in every part of the United States.

Without regard to the exact spot in which they may reside, Oregon people are beginning to realize fully the tremendous benefit of the Annual Rose Festival, which this year begins June 7th, continuing until the 12th. This festival emphasizes to people at distance the extremely favorable climatic conditions which make possible the production of the finest roses in the world.

County Judge J. B. Messick of Baker County, upon the request of several county courts of the state has issued a call for a state meeting of the County Courts and County Commissioners, at which it is expected to perfect a state organization similar to those existent in other states. Judge Lionel R. Webster, of Multnomah County, will act as Chairman of the Reception Committee, with power to name his associates. The gathering will convene at the Convention Hall of the Portland Commercial Club (6th floor) at ten o'clock Tuesday morning, June 7th, and continue through the day. An arrangement has been made for the County Courts and Judges to secure a point of vantage to witness the Rose Festival Parade Monday night will close its session, devoting the afternoon to the festivities.

County Commissioners, Sheriffs and Engineers have derived great benefit from their organizations throughout the entire United States, and it is certainly meet that the County Courts and County Commissioners, who practically handle the public affairs of each county, should get together for the benefit of each other's experience.

Oregonians don't wish anybody hard luck, but they never get sufficiently sympathetic, when the fruit crop fails in the older states, to "mark down" the price at which we "hold up" the balance of the world for its best apples.

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