

The Herald

W. T. FOGLE, Editor.

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The recent fire has demonstrated that there should be provision made for housing the chemical engine on Main street where it can be easily gotten out in case of fire. We understand that arrangements were made some time ago by the council to have a small building erected next the barbershop, but nothing further seems to have come of it. The bell tower should be moved to the same point and a system of ringing it by means of an electric release and attached weight. Other towns have a system of this kind and the release is operated from the central telephone office by pressing a button. As a rule alarms are turned in to central first so it would simplify matters by having such a system inaugurated here. This would save such valuable time in sending in an alarm. Then the fireman should be educated to the fact that they should run for the engine house when an alarm is turned in and not for the fire, as has been the custom. Weekly practice should be had to familiarize themselves with the operation of the engine and to get each one acquainted with his part in the fire fighting plans. A small cart should be provided with a number of ladders and a hook and ladder company organized. On this cart should be a number of canvas buckets to use in connection with the ladders. At the fall election a measure should be voted to enable the city to bond for a water system that will enable us to have good fire fighting facilities. Our insurance would no doubt be lowered again. With the chemical engine and one or two lines of hose we ought to be able to put out any kind of fire that is apt to occur here.

We are in receipt of a letter from the Recorder of the Faculties of O. A. C. and also the graduating program for June, which shows that there were 122 in the graduating class and of which number 18 had taken the course in Agriculture. This brings the cost of graduating farmers to the state to \$20,333.33 each. Are they worth it? Or if we take the amount appropriated at last session as being a two year graft we should cut the amount in two, making it upwards of \$10,000 each. How much does the state expend in getting the great mass of young people educated to the eighth grade, where the great majority have to stop? The O. A. C. is a good school and so far as it is helpful to the state we believe it should be aided, but we protest that it is getting entirely too much money as compared with the common schools of the state where the foundations are laid for our future citizenship. Pro-

vision should be made for giving every boy and girl in the state a high school education, after which they will be in a position to shift for themselves and get along nicely, even if they do not get to go to one of the state aided colleges. Departments in agriculture should be added to the high school course.

The Oregonian Friday contained a lengthy editorial on "Irrigation in the Willamette Valley" in which it is asserted that during the months of late summer "nothing can thrive for lack of water." This is untrue and misleading, like many other assertions of that paper. As a newspaper it is the best in the state, but editorially it is a bunch of assinity and untruthfulness that is truly phenomenal. This must be ascribed largely to the head of the editorial department whose personal feelings, no doubt, affect the whole paper. As to the editors' qualifications as an irrigator we must judge by his personal appearance. But there seems to be no doubt that he is a better internal irrigator than an external one. He is built on the broad lines we used to be familiar with as connected with the big iron kettles used for rendering lard and making soft soap. This of itself renders him one of the best judges of the need of irrigation in this valley. Dear old Harvey! What a happy smile on his benevolent countenance as he trudges down Sixth street, cogitating on the great need of irrigation between Portland and Eugene during the heated term.

Fishermans License

The licensed fishermen in Polk County now number 244 as against 99 hunters, as the license records in the office of County Clerk E. M. Smith indicate. Although the number of fishers' licenses issued increases its lead over the hunters' licenses daily, Mr. Smith predicts that this will not continue to be the case and that the issuance of licenses in those two departments will be nearly equal by the close of the year 1909. The fishing season is now at its height, while the real season for hunting has not yet begun. In the fall after the pheasant seasons opens, the huntsman will again come into his own, the glory of the angler will wane and the run on the clerk's office for hunters' license at that time, will, the County Clerk foretells, quickly bring their issuance up to an equal footing with that of the licences issued to the votaries of the rod and reel.—Observer.

Editor Wants to Know

Don't think, admonishes a Kansas newspaper, because the reporter sees you getting on the train that he ought to know who you are and where you are going, or, if he sees you greet some friends, that he knows who they are and where they are from. We aim to get all the news, but you may be the one we don't happen to know. We try to become familiar with names and faces, if possible, but during the years past we have been to church and failed to see you there; we have hung around the town pump, but some of you weren't there. And we'll be hanged if we know where to find you at all. So if you are going or coming, or know of anybody cutting up queer capers, let us know.

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