

# The Herald

D. E. STITT, Editor.

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Monmouth, Oregon.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 23, 1910.

Partisan politics reminds us of a drove of sheep that is being headed along in a certain direction; the sheep go alright until one breaks over and away goes the rest after the leader and no matter if it is over a precipice the bunch take the leap. We have seen political meetings mapped out similar to sheep following the leader, except that the leader knew what he was doing and led where he chose as the political slate had already been prepared, it was rushed through in a manner which partook of great enthusiasm, but the interests of certain persons were cared for and—well the general public did not get what they wanted.

A number of our exchanges say that the fight which is being made in the Republican party against the Assembly candidate is becoming weaker, but we hardly believe that such is true and are of the opinion that the result of next Saturday's primary election will be disastrous to the assembly candidates generally, excepting those who are only seeking county offices. There seems to be a state of dissatisfaction, generally, throughout the whole country, and from the way insurgency is sweeping other states both east and west Oregon is likely to set the same pace.

Is there anything at stake in the coming election? There certainly is. Statement One, is the bone of contention. It guarantees to the people the right of choice of candidates; the right to choose whom they desire to serve them in an official capacity and tends toward breaking up the lines of partisan politics. It is a means by which the boss cannot herd the voting population and if the voters of Oregon desire that their liberties be not curtailed they will say emphatically that Statement One shall stand.

## VILLAGE LIFE IN DISFAVOR

Under the above caption the Oregonian published the following article, much of which will apply to this place, or to any of the small towns in any state or in any country, and hence, might be read with profit and as it came to us with request to publish we give it space.

"Village life does not seem to be in favor with the American people. While urban growth in cities having a population of 50,000 and less is marked in the returns of the thirteenth census, the village of a few hundred or thousand people no longer multiplies. The preference is for the city not exceeding 50,000 in population and for the rural districts, now so well served by post-office delivery and trolley lines.

"This is not to be regretted. While many of the best tradi-

tions of the country cluster around the village green, the village store, the village church and parsonage and the village postoffice, village life is proverbially narrow, given to scandal and productive of idleness, especially among men and boys. These facts, together with petty scandals brewed by idleness and narrowness of view among women have justly brought village life into disfavor. In other words, the American people have outgrown the village with its humdrum, its stagnation, its lack of incentive to action.

"The cry 'back to the country' has resounded far and wide. Its answer has passed the village by, leaving it to tradition and memory. Rural free delivery has deprived it of the prestige of a postoffice; the trolley line passes through it, halting for a moment, on its way, to the more attractive rural districts beyond. It offers nothing to enterprise, little in the way of educational opportunity or social pleasure. It is simply humdrum—therefore distinctly un-American in the restless, eager, progressive interpretation of that term."

## MUSICAL GLASSES.

The Queer Looking "Armonica" That Franklin Devised.

Books have been written about the many sided Franklin. His omnivorous and practical mind seemed ready to attack any new branch of science with the same earnestness. Music did not escape him, and he actually invented a musical instrument that was sufficiently unique to arouse the interest of some of the great masters.

How long "musical glasses" have been used for their special purposes no one really knows. There is an account of an Irish performer who played upon the musical glasses in his native country as early as 1743. When Gluck went to England (April, 1746) there is an account of his playing at the little Haymarket theater, which runs as follows: "He played a concerto on twenty-six drinking glasses, tuned with spring water, accompanied by the whole band, being a new instrument of his own invention, upon which he performs whatever may be done upon the violin or harpsichord." In Goldsmith's "Vicar of Wakefield" the "musical glasses" are mentioned as being fashionable.

When Franklin was in London (1762) he saw a performer upon the glasses, who played them by wetting his fingers and wiping them over the brims. Seeking to improve and systematize this instrument and at the same time to extend its usefulness by means of the application of mechanical appliances, Franklin devised an unusual looking instrument which was described thus in Grove's Dictionary: "The bells or basins of glass were ranged or strung on an iron spindle (long rod). The largest and deep toned ones were at the left and gradually rose in pitch according to the usual scale. The lower edges of the basins were dipped in a trough of water. The spindle or rod was made to revolve before the performer, so that all the glass bowls were kept continually going around and around by means of a treadle connected with the spindle and operated by the foot of the performer. The sound was produced by applying the fingers to the wet edges of the bowls as they revolved. Franklin called the instrument the armonica.

Mozart wrote music for this unusual musical machine, and it became very popular in parts of Germany. The composer Naumann wrote sonatas for it, and at one time it was used in some of the court orchestras. Beethoven wrote a piece of twenty-four measures for the instrument. In Germany the instrument was called the harmonica. Its tone was often irritating, penetrating and exciting, and it was said to have had a bad effect upon the nerves of the performers.—Brooklyn Eagle.

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