

The Herald

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Entered as second-class matter September 5, 1905, at the post office at Monmouth, Oregon, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

ISSUED EVERY FRIDAY

Subscription Rates

One year - \$1.50
Six months - 85 cts
Three months - 50 cts

Monmouth, Oregon.

FRIDAY, MAY 22, 1914.

THE FIGHT IS COMING

The Primary Election is over and the victory is won, although there were more defeats than otherwise. However, the great battle is yet to come as the forces will now align for the November election.

Perhaps the heaviest battle will rage around the prohibition question as both sides are organizing for the fray. This will be a contest between right and wrong. A fight wherein dollars will be weighed against the souls of men and women; where alcohol will outrank the virtue of the girls and boys, on one side, while on the other the welfare of humanity will be placed on the scales and a fight made to secure as much as is possible the human family from the blighting influence of the liquor traffic.

It would be bad, sufficiently so, were the boys and girls of the advocates of the liquor traffic the only ones that will be thrown under its blighting influence, but this is not so, every other boy and girl, in fact all must suffer the effect that it enjoin upon the communities effected.

MEDIATORS AT WORK

The Peace Envoys of Mexico and the U. S. have met at Niagara, Canada, and are now in session, but as such bodies move slowly it is not likely that anything definite will be known for some days and perhaps it may be weeks before the final result will be attained.

The elimination of Huerta seems to be one of the points that will be insisted upon, but unless the commission hurries up its work, it is possible that the Constitutionalists will eliminate the Mexican dictator before the envoy gets around to it.

However if the commission can arrange terms by which peace can be established in Mexico and the United States army withdrawn honorably from Mexican territory they will have done a commendable thing.

"In the Service of Humanity"

That is a fine utterance from the lips of ex-President Taft—a reiteration and an endorsement of that for which President Wilson contends—"If we must go into war, let it be understood that it is for the service of humanity."

If those forces that shall determine either for war or for peace are not unduly influenced by the clamor of jingoism, "in the service of humanity" will be the one paramount consideration, and we will have no war. The pressure of circumstances, and some of them of malign import, makes for war, but the outcome that will be the greatest triumph for us is to avoid it.

Mr. Taft emphasizes the key-

note for patriotism. It involves patience, tolerance, and above all a just attitude toward all concerned. Mr. Taft knows the inner complications of the situation, and his counsel is therefore the more worthy of heed.—Portland Telegram.

The Clean Up at Vera Cruz

In whatever way it may be made manifest, we are bound to entertain a high opinion of the efficiency of the United States Army, whether the occasion be one of war, of assistance in time of disaster, or of sanitation, such as that which engages the forces at Vera Cruz.

We have gone into that Mexican city as a matter of stern reprimand—no more unless circumstances shall force the issue of war. But already we have begun to perform a mission of mercy to those people, for it is a mercy to show them by practical example how they can live more cleanly and consequently more healthfully.

The effect of such lesson is usually lasting; and when we finally leave Vera Cruz, just as when we left Havana, the beneficial results of our having been there will remain. The lesson which the army is now teaching at Vera Cruz never will be quite forgotten.—Portland Telegram.

Overhauling the Public Utilities

The Oregon Railroad Commission is engaged in overhauling the records of nearly every public utility corporation in Oregon. In some cities the people want reduced rates. In others the community wants public ownership. In others it is being done on complaint of individuals, or by initiative of the Railroad Commission itself.

Sixty-two such cases are pending before the above commission, which is known by a new law as the Public Utilities Commission, and it has power to employ experts to make valuations of the corporate property, to call for the books and records of the corporation, to summon witnesses, and employ legal experts.

In one city in the Willamette Valley this kind of an investigation has been going on for over a year. A water company that for over twenty years never declared a dividend and has lost money for several groups of citizens who were owners, at last declared a good dividend in 1913 when it made some money. Pending this investigation the company has suspended all betterments or extensions.

There are two objects in having this company overhauled. There is a strong movement in this particular city for public ownership, and the Public Utility Commission is used to beat down the purchase price which the owners ask for the property. The other purpose is to show that the water company should not earn over eight per cent dividend in any one year.

If the business of this corporation is taken over a period of twenty or thirty years, and for half that period no earnings were made, but all the earnings and other capital that was borrowed were put into the property, and at last it begins to pay, and then the earnings are limited to eight per cent, what will be the result upon all such properties in Oregon?

Will it be possible to get capital in Oregon or from the east to go into such properties and develop them? If the owners

cannot invest in such property and sell it at a profit as anyone would a sawmill, a farm, a bank, or a newspaper, who will want to put a dollar into a water, gas, electric or street railway plant in Oregon? These are serious questions.

What should be a good sound policy for any state to pursue? Do we not want the benefit of competition between public ownership and private ownership? Will not the people get the best results if private capital goes into all the development enterprises possible and when a community can better itself let the community be free to install plants for public service.

If the policy is established that public utility corporations shall have their values fixed by the state, and have their power to declare dividends and earn profits upon the investment curtailed, will it be possible to get any outside money into development enterprises in a new and thinly settled state? Is there any public utility in making it impossible to get outside capital into Oregon?

Boys' Short Course in Agriculture June 15-30

In connection with the regular summer session of the Oregon Agricultural College, a two weeks' short course in Agriculture will be given for boys of the Seventh, Eighth, and High School grades. A special illustrated circular of 16 pages has been issued and mailed to all county school superintendents and to city and village superintendents and principals. Copies may be secured of them or of the director of the summer school, Prof. E. D. Ressler, Corvallis, Oregon.

The Circular contains a description of the instruction to be given, full information in regard to R. R. rates, cost of board and room, supplies and clothing to be brought by boys, method of application for enrollment, etc. There are also pictures of the boys of last year's course in class, laboratory, field, swimming pool, on hikes and at games. Thirty-five boys, representing over a dozen counties, attended the first session. Accommodations for one hundred boys are provided this year.

Four to five hours each day, including Saturday, are devoted to study and the remainder of the time to play, with Wednesday and Saturday afternoons free. A general leader, assisted by three to five senior or graduate college boys, will keep careful oversight of the boys day and night, both to keep them from getting into mischief and to see that each boy gets his share of all the work and fun. The boys will be organized into groups, according to age and development, for both the instruction and play. Each group will have one of these leaders who will be a sort of big brothers.

Any boy in Oregon is eligible, but not more than one will be accepted from one district or ward school in the towns so long as there are applicants from schools not represented. All applicants must be approved by the county or town superintendent, both as to character and ability to profit by the course. No tobacco users will be accepted.

Boys, teachers, parents or others who may be interested should secure a copy of this circular.

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Let me figure with you on that new building you are soon intending to erect.

Bargains In Land

We have concluded to engage in the Real Estate Business, but different from others. We propose to bring buyer and seller together. If they trade our remuneration to be 2 1-2 per cent.

I am in touch with many prospective buyers and traders. Consult me. I have lands that can be bought or traded almost anywhere you desire it.

Washington Lands

80 acres, 9 miles north of Goldendale, 12 acres cleared, mostly in apples, 60 acres good land, balance rocky; good house and barn.

320 acres, 3 miles from Centerville, prairie land, 225 acres under plow, part of land is second swale, part of unculti-

vated land can be plowed, the balance is pasture land; hog-tight fences, mostly new; well, springs, windmill and tank, house, new barn and other buildings. Owner does not need cash and has farm machinery to sell on reasonable terms.

120 acres, 10 miles north of Goldendale. 8 acres under plow, 16 acres slashed and burned. 200 to 225 bearing fruit trees. 300 more two year old apples. All good land and lies nearly level. Irrigating ditch and good creek. There are 1000 cords of wood standing. Large 7 room house, barn. Price \$6,000, mortgage of \$600. Will trade for improved ranch of equal value.

The timber soil is volcanic ash and red shot, and it is suitable for all kinds of fruit, berries, alfalfa, grain, potatoes, etc.

Land is easily cleared, as the timber is scattering, in some cases the timber will pay for the cost of clearing, and an average cost is \$25 per acre.

Oregon Lands

172 acres, one and one-half miles out of town.

168 acres, 5 miles out of town.

34 acres, in town, to trade or sell.

If I haven't got what you want I'll get it for you.

Call and see me or write to

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