Oregon Historical Society

POLK COUNTY HUB OF The WILLAMETTE VALLEY

Independence Enterprise

INDEPENDENCE —the— HOP CENTER OF THE WORLD

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TOO MUCH RAIN --SAY GROWERS

Considerable Damage Done To Hops and Grain. Several Report Heavy Losses.

Rain a Hardship on the Pickers. Some Have Left Yards Disgusted and Returned Home.

Probbaly no season for a number of years has been so discouraging to the hop growers of this country as the present one. Before the hop crop was scarcely ready to pick and growers were hurrying to get things in readiness for the harvest, rain set in and continued to pour down in a discouraging and damaging manner.

From former experiences little fear was entertained regarding the possibility of saving the crop. But unlike anything yet heard of in the Willamette valley, rain has fallen more or less everyday for more than a week. In speaking of the conditions one man who has lived in this vicinity for nearly fifty years, said it has been the most damaging month of August he had ever witnessed.

While in some instances the damage to the hops has been quite extensive, it is the opinion of most growers that most of the crop will be cared for in good condition. During the last few days the weather has been very good and a great many hops have been put in the bale.

During the rainy period many have been camped in the yards throughout the county waiting for the time to come when the harvest could be progressed with to a successful termination, and many, it is said, have felt want by reason of poor circumstances. They have been well provided so far as shelter is concerned, and growers have done everything possible for the comfort of their pickers during the idle moments caused by rain.

Several are said to have left the yards and returned home, tired of waiting for the time to come when they could begin work. In many of the yards picking has been in progress, notwithstanding the inclement condition of the weather.

Most of the damage that has resulted to the hops seems to be from falling wires caused by the rain and wind. It is said that not a few yards have suffered in this respect. At the Rider yard north of the city the wires went down Sunday and Monday. C. D. Wilson's pickers were put to work in this yard and it is said that the crop has practically all been saved. Other parts of the country complain of the same trouble, and a few tell of damage by mold. As a whole the damage will amount to considerable.

Greater damage has been done to other crops, however, by reason of the prolonged rain, and this is general all over the valley. Much of the grain yet in the fields has been ruined for milling purposes.

POLK COUNTY WINS PRIZES

Dallas, Popcorn, Independence and Valley Favored Districts. Valley Favored Districts.

Winning first prize on bread and first, second and fourth prizes on cake, Polk county is maintaining her reputation as the "Blue Ribbon" county of Oregon at the state fair. only a portion of the schooy exhibit has been passed upon and of the prizes already awarded, first prize for bead making goes to Ruth Miller, of Dallas; first prize for cake goes to Mildred Clark, of Popcorn district; second in cake to Leota Rogers, of Independence, and fourth to Goldie Branson, Spring Valley.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

HE WANTS TO KNOW

Editor Enterprise.—

In a recent issue of the Enterprise read an article something to the effect that if North Independence residents want water from the Oregon Power Co., they must offer some encouragement in the way of patronage. Let me briefly ask what sort of encouragement can this great incorporation want? And what more can they expect than that which has already been given them?

Thirty-two homes in that part of this city have petitioned for water. More than that number have expressed a willingness to use city water if the mains can be put in on the North side. There is no limit to the number of consumers that can be obtained if we can get the water mains.

In my opinion it is not lack of encouragement that is holding up the citizens of North Independence on the water question. It is something else; now what is it? Be a man or a mouse.

A Citizen.

Dear Editor.—

I have read your many favorable comments regarding the needs of Independence from time to time and with much interest, too, but there is one great improvement required in this city that has never been mentioned in print to my knowledge, and one does not need to be a close observer to see that it is in demand. I refer to the necessity of an arc light at the corner above the ferry landing. It will serve a great number of people during the winter if it can be provided. Not so much required by the people crossing the river, but by the great many who travel to and from East Independence by boat since the electric road was built.

To be sure you have no more voice in the matter than I have, but this is a suggestion to the city council or the Commercial Club—or some one.

A Reader.

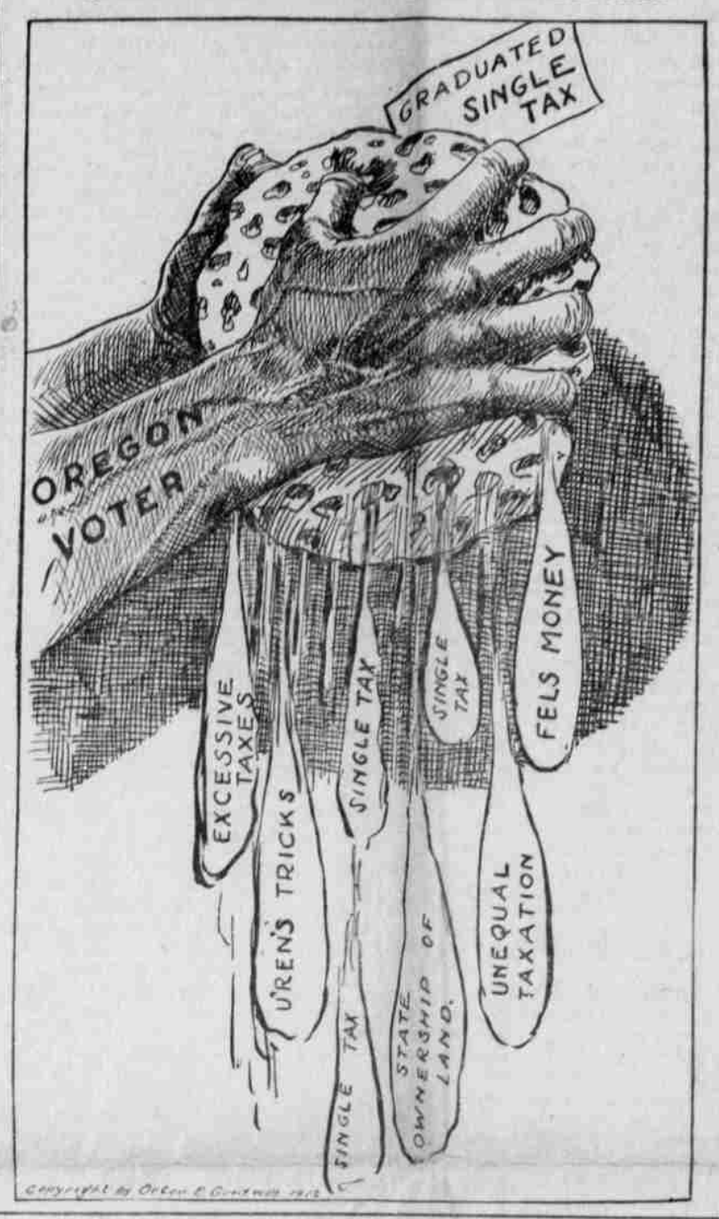
Her Looks

Little dabs of powder,
Little specks of paint,
Make my lady's freckles
Look as if they ain't.
—Lippincott's.

SCHOOL BOOKS and SUPPLIES

CRAVEN & MOORE
Independence, Ore.

SQUEEZING THE WATER OUT OF SINGLE TAX



POPCORN WAGON MUST PAY $20

Ordinance To License Popcorn Wagons, Etc, Passsd By City Council.

Council Meeting, Wednesday Night. Was Quiet. Franchise Ordinances Again Tabled.

The common council met in regular session Wednesday evening, and was called to order in the usual form by Mayor Eldridge. Councilmen present were Mix, Bohannon, Dixon and Campbell.

Mr. Mix made a report regarding the committee's inspection of the foot bridge and offered suggestions relative to means of repairing same.

The committee to whom was referred the matter of J. G. McIntosh's petition regarding drainage on his place to Ash creek, reported unfavorable.

An ordinance intended to license a popcorn wagon or stand on the streets was introduced and put on its final passage and the license was fixed at $20 per year.

The long standing franchise ordinances were again laid over to next meeting.

Observed Labor Day.

Monday was Labor day, a day set apart for rest and recreation, and observed in many localities. Independence observed the day to some extent. Not by choice, but by reason of the downpour of rain.

Every business house in the city was open the usual unmber of hours except the banks. They closed all day and the hop-yard merchants carried the day's earnings in old socks and every old place until Tuesday.

The Maintenance of a Microbe

A country school-teacher was cashing her monthly check at the bank. The teller apologized for the filthy condition of the bills, saying, "I hope you're not afraid of microbes."

"Not a bit of it," the schoolmarm replied. "I'm sure no microbe could live on my salary.—Sept. Lippincotts

RURAL CARRIERS AT DALLAS

Very Successful Convention of State Association Held At County Seat.

New System of Fixing Salary Urged by Rural Mail Carriers. Good Roads Discussed.

Sunday and Monday the Oregon State Rural Mail-carriers' Association met in annual convention at Dallas. The commercial club there made the carriers' visit to the city a most interesting event. Franz Kraxberger of Aurora, president of the association, expressed himself as highly pleased at the matter of attendance and hospitality received. It is said to have been the largest congregation of rural carriers ever held in the state. A banquet given in the New Scott was one of the attractive features.

The association holds its meetings on the Sunday immediately preceding labor day for the reason that both days are holidays, and this makes it possible for most of the carriers to be present.

The association took up the discussion of good roads, and Dr. Harry Lane of Portland, addressed the association on the subject in his able manner. The meeting was held at the new armory building.

The carriers are uging a Federal law for $50 a mile each year for each carrier. The highest salary paid now is $1000, on a basis of a 24-mile route.

Special Train Load.

A special train load of hoppickers for the Wigrich ranch arrived in the city Saturday evening and were transported to the busy field of labor by teams. Independence bore the appearance of a great metropolis upon that occasion. It is said that the hoppickers in that yard this year unmber over one thousand.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our sincere thanks for assistance and sympathy expressed during our recent bereavement.—Mr. and Mrs. Walter ser.

WE'RE PROUD OF IT

New Store Opening Tomorrow Means Much to Citizens of Independence and Polk County.

Tomorrow witnesses the dedication of a new enterprise in Independence which mans much to every citizen in this vicinity. Not particularly the bargain seekers, the purchasing public, but to the merchants as well. Because with the opening of the new store of Wetherbee & Jones in the entirely modern room arranged for them, a class of trade that has heretofore gone elsewhere will be retained at home, and because this mammoth stock of goods, modern conveniences will draw a class of trade that will be of much benefit to the city in general. It is, as the proprietors have said, "a store for the people," and we can truly say that there is no better equipped place of business and no better selected stock in Oregon, south of Portland.

It can only be appreciated by being seen, and the reader is urged to accept the opening invitation of the company and look over the place and inspect the goods.

Geo. Carbray, who has been a citizen of Independence for some time, and the Misses Jones, pioneers of the city, will be represented in the new enterprise and this is sufficient to assure its success. But when it is also said that Mr. Wetherbee, of Eugene, a man of long experience in the general merchandise business, is at the head, it gives all the more force to the new enterprise.

Green Hops Stored.

A. Green was the first man to bring hops to the Independence warehouse, and L. Damon, the pioneer grower, was in close pursuit. Mr. Green stored 14 bales and Mr. Damon 12. He will, however, have more in the warehouse in a few days, possibly numbering 25 bales in all. The hops came in Wednesday, and this, Mr. Dixon says, is the earliest that hops have been delivered since he has been in charge of the warehouse.

AUCTION SALE

Van. Walters will hold an auction sale at his home place 3 miles north of this city on Thursday, September 19, when he will dispose of his personal property to the highest bidder. Mr. Walters recently sold his farm and will move to Salem after the sale, where he has purchased a fine home.

Miss Alice Ross of Salem, and Elmer Nash of Buena Vista, were married at Salem last Sunday and visited in this city the first of the week.

Dr. D. C. Rempel, Chiropractor, of Dallas, has rented rooms in the rooming house opposite the depot and will practice here every day, commencing Monday, September 9. Hours 9:30 to 2. All nervous diseases a specialty.

WILL ATTEND CONFERENCE

Rev. Sandifur To Leave Soon For Ashland Where West Oregon Conference Meets.

Congregation Hopes to Have Him Returned to Independence By That Body.

One week from Monday Rev. F. N. Sandifur will go to Ashland to attend the annual West Oregon M. E. Conference, which will convene in that city on the 19th, and continue for one week.

Nothing definite can be stated at this time, of course, regarding the appointments to be made at this great convention, but it is a safe guess that there will be no change in the pastor at Independence. While it is true that this rests almost entirely with the presiding officer of the conference, yet it depends upon the local church and district superintendent to furnish the information required before making the appointments. It is generally understood on the part of the congregation that Rev. Sandifur will be returned and we believe he will make that recommendation to the bishop.

During their stay in this city Rev. and Mrs. Sandifur have made many warm friends both in and out of the church, and their removal this year would mean a great surprise and a great disappointment.

At the M. E. Church.

There are classes in our school for all ages. Any and all are cordially welcome.

Preaching at 11 a. m. The theme is "God's Three Requirements." Epworth League at 7 p. m. Topic: "Overwhelming Popularity." The Pearl of Great Achievement."

Evening service at 8 p. m. Theme: A Barefoot King. Good singing and a cordial welcome are features of these services.

F. N. Sandifur.

HOP HOUSE BURNS

J. A. Byers' hop house and dryer were consumed by fire early Monday morning. The fire originated from a defective flue in the dry kiln, and the entire building was enveloped in flames before the fire was discovered. Nothing in the building could be saved. Mr. Byers had just started picking and put the first kiln over the fire shortly before the flames were discovered pouring from the building. The loss, we understand, was partly covered by insurance.

Orders Now Being Taken

For the *Latest Fall Styles In Gentlemen's Dress*

New domestic and imported woolens now on display in all the latest weaves and tones. Made-to-measure only and every feature of high class tailoring strictly guaranteed.

And you'll find our prices absolutely RIGHT.
Yours truly,
O. A. KREAMER