

West Side Enterprise.

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ABOUT POLK COUNTY.

The Oregonian, taking editorial cognizance of Polk county says:

"Several farms in Polk County have changed hands recently at good prices. These lands are suitable for grain, hops, fruit and hay, and are, in fact, well adapted to the purposes of a diversified agriculture. In the years when the market was limited—when, in fact, there was no market for the more perishable products of Oregon farms—many of these old farms were seeded to wheat year after year and became sites of homes where plenty reigned and contentment dwelt. Under the stimulus of a widening market diversified farming has succeeded old methods. Hop yards have been planted, orchards reset, on a commercial instead of a family or neighborhood basis; dairying interests have been established and the producing value of the land has been very generally tested. Change of ownership is desirable, and, indeed, for the fullest development of our agricultural resources, it is necessary. This has been inaugurated and the next five years ought to witness great improvement, in the old farms, not only of Polk County, but of other sections of the Willamette Valley equally fertile and well situated."

Hops alone are sufficient to attract the attention of the world to Old Polk. This county has come to be the hop center of the state. If in search of the choicest hop land of the whole United States, hop-men will direct

you to Polk county, Oregon. Polk county hops like Walla Walla wheat has achieved world-wide fame, and hops grown in this county have a prestige over other goods in the world's markets. Dairying and raising of livestock are also destined to add greatly to the wealth of this county. Hills of perennial verdure and mild winters make it an ideal dairyland, and the demand for the dairy product is many times the annual output. Polk offers an inviting field for the dairyman.

In the breeding of fine stock, particularly goats and hogs, this county occupies front rank. The annual goat show held in this county brings together the finest blood and highest priced Angora goats, Poland China and Berkshire hogs to be found in the country. When Polk enters into competition for the premium offered by the State Fair for best county exhibit of all products, she usually brings home first prize. Western Polk also has a wealth of timber ready to be opened up that is a most valuable asset.

There is demand for land in this section and considerable property is changing hands of late and there is good reason back of it.

OREGON'S STATE FLOWER.

The state flower of Oregon is what is known as the Oregon grape (Berberis aquifolium). George H. Himes, assistant secretary of the Oregon Historical Society, first suggested to the State Horticultural Society in 1890 that it designate a state flower. The matter was discussed at two annual meetings and the Oregon grape was adopted at the meeting of 1892. By resolution the state legislature adopted it at the 1901 session. This plant presents beauty of both foliage and bloom, and is an excellent shrub for lawn or garden decoration. There are but two varieties or species of Oregon grape, the low bush (Berberis nervosa) rarely growing more than two feet in height, with a stem not larger than one's little finger, and the high bush (Berberis aquifolium) which grows to a height of 8 to 15 feet and a diam-

eter of 4 inches or more. Some florists sell the plant under the name of "Oregon holly."

RURAL TELEPHONE.

Senator Fairbanks has a project by which rural mail shall be delivered by special rural telephone service. The matter will be brought before this congress. According to the plan, the postmaster shall open and telephone to the person addressed the contents of a letter which bears a required special delivery stamp. Probably a ten-cent special stamp would pay for the telephone delivery of a hundred words. The farmers of Indiana and adjoining states offer the Government the free use of their rural lines serving a great many thousand rural telephones. The senator proposes an experimental trial of the plan for a year or two. Probably it would prove as popular and enduring as the free rural delivery.

Rural telephone lines have a good foothold in Polk county and the prospects are that a few years hence will find a net-work of telephone wire over the greater portion of the county. The Independent system has come to the field and the Bell system is looking after the extension of its lines.

Captain Sam White, chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee, delivered a telling shock to Jeffersonian simplicity by appearing at the meeting of the committee on Washington's birthday, in a silk tile hat and a Prince Albert coat. But otherwise, the chairman set democracy a good example by subscribing for the WEST SIDE ENTERPRISE.

There are days when young men, with buoyant hope and unlimited self-assurance are stepping into the arena and announcing their candidacy for congressman to represent the First district. Wait until the magic influence of the double hand-shake from Washington sweeps over the land before trying to name the successful candidate.

Before accepting the Eugene Register's invitation to nominate

Hon. L. T. Harris for congress by acclamation, a great many people will first wait to know if he is the same Mr. Harris that, in an eulogistic speech nominated Geo. C. Bronwell for chairman of the last congressional convention.

Linn county democrats are to be congratulated upon not being affected by any factions or internal strife in the party. With continued harmony and a full vote there will be no question as to the result next June.—Albany Democrat.

And would you make the same brotherly recommendation for the majority party in Polk county, Mr. Democrat?

There are no new announcements of democratic candidates for county office. Wesley Hodson and Hardey Holman are writing for the republicans to consider their names in connection with the county judgment between now and convention time.

The G. A. R. hall of Independence can be used as a dance hall for the Siletz Indians while the congressional convention is holding its pow-wow in a cramped hall over at Salem.

H. L. Fenton may not now be a candidate for the state senate, but the republicans, in selecting a candidate may as well look for running qualities that will measure up with Fenton.

Harry Miller of Oregon, now United States Consul at New Chwang is getting a taste of the strenuous life.

Salem the place and the 13th the date. No hoodoo, we trust, on the congressional convention.

Nominations for office, secured in any but an honorable way is not worth the having.

Russia now threatens to drive Japan into the sea. We'll see.

We are loaded for bear.—Japanese Soldiers.

HUMANITY'S DEBT TO THE UNITED STATES

By JOHN W. FOSTER,
 Ex-Secretary of State



By its steady championship of a freer commerce and most elevated principles of conduct in war the United States has brought about an ALMOST COMPLETE CHANGE in the practice of nations. There remains to be incorporated into international law of the principles announced by the founders of the government and steadily advocated up to this day—the exemption from seizure of PRIVATE property on the sea in time of war. As our country from its earliest history led the nations of earth in creating a more elevated and perfect system of international law, so also it has been the most active IN ADJUSTING INTERNATIONAL CONTROVERSIES and preserving peace by means of treaties of arbitration. The first treaty negotiated by the organization of our government under the constitution—the treaty of 1794 with Great Britain—marked a distinct advance in the practice of nations and sought to ameliorate the harshness of and to establish more clearly neutral rights.

The ONLY instance in our history where fraud and corruption have been established against an arbitration tribunal was the Venezuela under the treaty of 1866. Soon after the adjournment the commission charges of irregularity and fraud on the part of members were made at Washington by the Venezuelan government and an investigation established to the satisfaction of congress that A CORRUPT ARRANGEMENT HAD BEEN MADE between the American commission, the umpire (a Venezuelan United States minister in Venezuela and his relative, the lead attorney before the commission, by which a large part of each side was DIVIDED between the persons named. After considerable delay in securing legislation a new commission was organized, reviewed the work of its predecessor.

OF THE TWENTY-FOUR CASES ALLOWED BY THE FIRST COMMISSION ONLY NINE WERE PASSED ON FAVORABLY, AND 15 OLD CASES REJECTED WERE ALLOWED BY THE NEW COMMISSION, REPRESENTING MORE THAN HALF OF THE TOTAL AD-

The Law Should Prohibit Treating

By Rev. C. C. McLEAN of Oak Park, Ill.

If treating gives intemperance its greatest impetus, and believe it does, then treating is what we should strike at. We can get at one main root of the traffic in alcoholic beverages by hanging a law above the saloon keeper's head, a law which says, "EVERY MAN MUST PAY FOR HIS OWN DRINK."

If the treating custom were made illegal so far as the whisky is concerned it would soon become a dead letter in other lines.

WHAT SENSE IS THERE IN A CUSTOM WHICH ALWAYS HAS ONE MAN PAY THE EXPENSES OF TWO MEN?

Men would perhaps smoke just as much or more if the law did not prevail in the cigar stores, but they would not drink so much.

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 About the same thing with flat glass door, - \$30

SALE PRICES



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