

# THE EUGENE WEEKLY GUARD

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FRIDAY — JULY 13

## Meldrum and His Offense

Henry Meldrum, of Oregon City, prominent in Oregon for many years as a government land surveyor, and as surveyor general of the state, is under sentence of imprisonment for three years and fines aggregating over five thousand dollars. Past the prime of life, when a man should take his life the easiest, he must atone for wrong doing. Oregon's federal officialdom, judging from trials and convictions, is, or must have been at east, a bad lot. Some have been caught, and it is reasonable to suppose that others covered their tracks against apprehension, if not suspicion. Mr. Meldrum's offense lay in urging affidavits of settlement on unsurveyed lands that he might get contracts for making public surveys, the government of late years requiring affidavits of intending settlement, with deposits, before letting contracts.

In years gone by the surveyor general let contracts as he pleased, with the result that thousands upon thousands of acres of Eastern Oregon desert lands upon which even a jackrabbit cannot live were surveyed, according to the full field notes made and the money collected—and divided in most instances. It came to be a saying that more field notes were made in camp than on the line of surveys—fictitious, of course. Such work in a country like this would have strained any man's imagination in describing fictitious trees, streams, hills and other natural features, but in a country where there is not the least variation for miles upon miles it was easy.

## The Day and the Mission

On July 4th Secretary Root and party left New York on the cruiser Charleston for Brazil. The day of departure on a mission of friendly import to sister republics was especially appropriate. Mr. Root's voyage to the south to attend the Pan-American conference will recall that on the same day, in 1776, the United States became the pioneer in American liberty. Up to that memorable day every acre of American soil was owned by European powers. They had each staked at American land with the view of establishing colonies from Hudson's Bay to the Straits of Magellan. The most flourishing of these were the British settlements along the Atlantic seaboard, extending thence to the French territory included in what was subsequently known as the Louisiana purchase.

The American declaration of independence set in motion the demand for freedom throughout the entire continent. The Spanish Americans in Mexico, Peru, Chili and Venezuela became foremost champions of liberty. They performed heroic deeds in the long struggle which ended with the downfall of Spanish power in this continent. The last remnant of their power was Cuba, which eight years ago, owing to American aid, bathed in the full sunlight of freedom.

There is no foreign flag now on the American mainland, with the notable exception of Canada. But there British rule is so much relaxed as to be almost nominal.

It is to conserve continental freedom and maintain amity among American peoples that Secretary Root visits Brazil, which became independent as early as 1822 and a republic in 1889. The conference will be in the interests of freedom, unlike those of the monarchs, which are generally held for the purpose of repression. Good results may be expected.

## Work of Congress

The first session of the Fifty-ninth congress, which adjourned Saturday evening, appropriated a large amount of money. Chairman Tawney, of the house appropriation committee,

makes the following statement on this subject

"The total appropriations made at this session of congress, including those carried in the regular appropriation accounts, all deficiencies, miscellaneous matters and permanent annual appropriations, aggregate \$880,183,301. This is an apparent increase of \$60,000,000 over the appropriations made at the last session of congress. This is more than accounted for in the three following items: For the Isthmian canal, \$12,447,000; under the statehood bill, \$10,250,000; toward the construction of new buildings authorized at this session, \$10,321,000, making a total of \$33,018,000, to which might properly be added \$5,000,000 for San Francisco."

But congress did more than spend money. The members were an apparently hard-working lot and accomplished much in the way of practical legislation, so that it is doubtful if another congress within a decade passed has enacted more important legislation than did the Fifty-ninth during its initial session. Here is the record in brief:

Railroad rate bill passed.  
Pure food bill passed and meat inspection agreed upon.  
Stricter naturalization laws passed.  
Law providing immunity for witnesses in government inquiries passed.  
Denaturalized alcohol bill removing internal revenue tax passed.  
Lock type settled upon for Panama canal.

Consular service remodeled and reformed.

Total of nearly \$900,000,000 appropriated for various purposes.

"Largest battleship afloat" authorized, but naval increases receive setback.

Annual appropriation for state militia doubled; to be \$2,000,000 hereafter.

Bill to preserve Niagara Falls passed.

Philippine tariff revised.

Employers' liability law passed.

Appropriation of \$1,325,000 for Jamestown exposition granted.

Appropriations of \$2,500,000 for relief of San Francisco fire sufferers granted.

Private pension bills in usual numbers passed.

There was opportunity for congress to work along practical lines for the benefit of the people in the matter of railroad rate legislation, meat and food inspection, Philippine tariff revision, and on various other questions, and the members seem to have risen to the occasion. No doubt some mistakes were made and some of the measures passed might have been better in many respects, but on the whole the constituents of the congressmen have no special reason to complain of the acts of their representatives.

## That Electric Railway

The electric railway franchise is the most important matter before the people of Eugene at this time. The die will be cast for or against the building of a city here in the acceptance or rejection of the proposition now pending before the council. A car line through our streets connecting this city and Springfield will be the nucleus for an interurban system that will in time extend over a large area of territory with Eugene as its centre, bringing with it increased population and business.

Recently a prominent Eastern Oregon mining man said to the Baker City Democrat:

"The electric interurban railway is the thing that is making the country today. It makes travel where was none before and adds to the profits of the steam railroad. The electric lines make as good or better time than steam railroads, even for hauls of 100 miles. When I was in Indiana a few months ago I made several trips of from 30 to 100 miles each on electric lines, where the schedule time was a minute and a half to the mile, including stops, and in several instances the car I was riding in overtook and passed the limited express on the parallel steam railroad."

Eugene must soon decide for or against the building of an electric road, since the capitalists who are ready to begin the work of construction are becoming impatient over the delay. There are other fields for investment in Oregon, and it is an easy matter to drive such enterprises away. They are not likely to be forced upon an unwilling community.

## Our Growing Business

The steady increase in the circulation of the Daily Guard indicates that

the people of Lane county appreciate a real daily newspaper. The Guard is made up in the modern form, the news well displayed and given to its readers the day it happens—not the day afterward. The Guard has long maintained a leading place among Western Oregon newspapers and its recent enlargement to a seven column page, with eight pages on Saturday, has placed it far in the lead of all competitors.

The growing business of the Guard in all lines has forced the publishers to order a complete new plant, consisting of a fast modern newspaper press, job presses and job and advertising type. This machinery was shipped from New York June 13, and is already overdue. When it arrives and is installed the Guard's plant will be the most complete of any paper in Oregon, outside of the city of Portland, and we will be prepared to make even a better paper than ever before. Still, we have no idea of overworking the field—simply propose to go right along giving all the news of interest to the readers in our field and making just as good a paper as business justifies. The Guard is not accustomed to peddling hot air or indulging in iridescent dreams, and makes no promises that it cannot fulfill. When it says that the Guard will be improved steadily with our new facilities, it makes no apology for the bright, newsy paper that is giving Eugene people "today's news today."

## State of Oklahoma

The new state of Oklahoma will be a real gem in the Union. It will come in with a population of 1,300,000, and with 45,000,000 acres of land. The vast proportion of the land is most fertile and the climate is such that not only all the plants of the temperate zone flourish there, but some of the valuable semi-tropic plants.

The genuine farmer can get his investment back off his land in three years. Then there is very much iron and coal of a fine quality. The state is so situated that a ready market can be obtained either in St. Louis or Galveston, and twenty years hence it should be as rich as Kansas is now. It is better watered than Kansas, and the extremes of heat and cold are not so trying as Kansas. The new state's star will be an honor to the flag.

Bradstreet's gives an account of the crops of Oklahoma for this season. Where seventeen years ago nothing was being done, this year "the crop statistics will be indicated by figures running into the millions, and by millions again when the aggregate value of the products is computed." It further says that: "In no other state do corn, cotton and wheat grow side by side with yields for each which compare favorably with those in states where any one crop is cultivated." The wheat crop for this year is given at 35,000,000 bushels, and the cotton crop at 800,000 bales. Then alfalfa, melons, broom corn, potatoes, peaches and grapes are making a wonderful showing. The peach crop is something enormous. It is a creation of only seventeen years.

## As Others See Us

Portland Daily Journal.

Many citizens of Oregon will watch with much interest the result of the local election in several counties. Two of the most populous and wealthy counties of the Willamette valley, Linn and Lane, have "gone dry"; say they desire no more saloons. They may reverse this opinion, possibly, two years hence, but we doubt it. Benton county, that went "dry" two years ago, did the same again a month ago, which is at least prima facie evidence that the people up there like it.

Corvallis has grown and prospered better during the past two years than ever before in its life of half a century. Albany and Eugene will probably do the same—at least Eugene, which is a university town. Eugene, Corvallis, Forest Grove, Monmouth and Weston are all school towns and the sentiment in favor of keeping them dry is strong.

The prohibition sentiment is growing, and the results of the recent election certainly indicate the probability that still more counties will go dry two years hence. In the exercise of the right of local option the majority of the people must rule. It may work hardship and inconvenience,

but nevertheless the people's will must be obeyed.

Citizens of Linn, Lane, Benton and other counties can always get a drink if they come to Portland.

Ex-Congressman John Lind, of Minnesota, is of the opinion that Bryan will be president unless the Republicans nominate a stronger candidate than any one who has been put forward. There is plenty of sound timber in the Republican party, and even if Bryan runs and is defeated, if he forces the Republicans to side-track that corporation ice wagon, Fairbanks, and run a real live man, his candidacy will not have been in vain. One of the advantages of maintaining two strong contesting political parties in this country is that it compels both to put forward their best men if they would not court defeat at the polls.

The anti-pass provision in the railroad rate bill as passed by congress prohibits broadly and generally any free transportation for interstate passage. The exempted class includes employees of railroads and their families, railroad officers, agents and surgeons and attorneys employed by railroads, inmates of hospitals and charitable institutions, and persons exclusively engaged in charitable work, disabled sailors and soldiers, caretakers of livestock, poultry and fruit, employes on sleeping and express cars and firemen for telegraph companies, postal, customs and immigrant inspectors, witnesses attending in interstate commerce hearings and physicians and nurses attending persons injured in wrecks.

Kansas and Oregon are alike in more ways than in the absence of beverages brewed by John Barleycorn. The Sunflower state, through Governor Hoch, issues a piteous appeal for laborers to assist in saving the great crops of grain and corn now reaching maturity on its fertile farms. Eight thousand harvest hands are wanted at once and the supply is not in sight. Oregon, too, wants men to harvest the crops, work in sawmills and logging camps, and build the new lines of railroad that are to develop latent resources and open up new territory to settlement. It is easy to tell what's the matter with Kansas just now, and Oregon is in a position to sympathize with her.

The New York American says over-indulgence in salt is dangerous to health. It avers that the North American Indian in his former healthy state never used salt or whiskey, the white man introducing him to both. Then the blame in many cases laid on alcoholic liquors really belongs largely to salt, many drinking places keeping heavily salted crackers and pretzels at hand in order to stimulate thirst, while some beer drinkers salt it heavily. Salt is not found in milk, nature's food for the young, and a milk diet is the best known remedy for diseases for which salt is responsible.

The population of the islands constituting Japan proper is 47,812,027, and that of the island of Formosa 3,050,235. Japan comprises 100 main islands and nearly 500 small islands, making the name of the "Island Empire" peculiarly appropriate. The total area of these islands is about 151,000 square miles. It is noted that there is a close approximation to equality in the division of the population between the two sexes.

Columbia river and tributary navigation is likely to be seriously affected by irrigation projects. It is estimated that half the volume of several tributary branches of the big river is now being taken for irrigation. This will eventually compel the building of dams and reservoirs to restrain and hold the water that falls in rain or snow during the wet season for use during the low water season when it is most needed.

"The swallow homeward flies." So do the senators and representatives to give an account of their stewardship, and before the short session, which begins in December, the November elections will have decided the fate of many aspirants—except in Oregon, where the election has already been held.

The New York federal court has decided that the railroads centering in that city cannot be prosecuted criminally under the anti-trust laws. Therefore they will be fined for rebating—and it follows that the heavier the fine imposed by the court, the higher the freight tariffs will be made, in order that the pockets of the stockholders be protected. This fining of lawbreaking corporations is arrant nonsense.

Instead of trying to hang George Mitchell for slaying Holy Roller Creffield, that Seattle district attorney might better employ his energies in prosecuting for criminal negligence two or three other fellows for not doing the job before Mitchell got the chance.

So Judge Tanner has been rewarded by a full pardon for betraying his lifelong friend and business associate, the late Senator Mitchell. A man made of the right stuff would have gone to prison himself rather than secure immunity by sending his oldest friend there.

Oregon politicians had an unnecessary scare. The anti-pass measure has been declared ineffectual because the enacting clause was omitted by W. S. U'Ren, the supreme source of Oregon law.

Western Oregon, from the north boundary of Douglas to the south line of Marion, now has all the attributes of Kansas—except its Carrie Nation. And it is safe to say that the latter will develop in due course of time.

It has finally been settled that twenty-seven persons met death in the Salisbury, England, train wreck Sunday. Those Englishmen are waking up—getting American methods over there.

Pendleton does not have prohibition, still four saloons were closed there the past month. Hard times, at least the supply greater than the demand.

It has been decided that the costly city hall at San Francisco is a total wreck and will have to be torn down. The Hall of Justice is also condemned.

We hope our local baseball pitchers will not be guilty of serving any more high balls. The majesty of the local option law must be maintained.

## Reformed Rymes

THE COW FELL INTO THE HASH  
You remember the cow that jumped over the moon?  
Well she came down with an awful crash,  
And she and the mouse and the clock and the spoon  
Were cunned and marked "Fine Chicken Hash."

## MARY'S LAMB POTPIE.

Mary had a little lamb,  
Its fleece was white as snow;  
And everywhere that Mary went  
The lamb was sure to go.  
The lamb fell ill one summer's day,  
And Mary sadly cried:  
But pa made haste to sell the lamb  
Before it really died.  
Two weeks elapsed and Mary's pa  
Bought beef trust lamb potpie;  
Now Mary and her little lamb  
Together buried lie.

## JACK HORNER'S DOG COLLAR.

Little Jack Horner sat in the corner,  
Feasting on canned chicken pie;  
He found a dog collar, and that made him holler,  
"Oh, what a sick boy am I!"

## Married

July 3d, at the residence of the bride's father at Cottage Grove, Eva J. Rhodes and Wm. C. Wilkins, Rev. C. H. Wallace officiating.

At the residence of the officiating minister, Rev. N. J. Harbit, at Junction City, July 4, 1906, Isaac W. Darrow and Miss Edna Miers.

At the residence of W. D. Wallace, July 4, 1906, James F. Awbrey and Miss Caroline Wallace, Rev. D. C. Kelms officiating.

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**Advertised Letters**  
Eugene, Or., July 13

Awbrey, J. T.  
Baker, Wm. A.  
Baker, Doctor.  
Beavis, George A.  
Chapin, W. L.  
Christensen, Frank Nels.  
Cochran, Morris C.  
Cummins, Royal.  
Curtis, Nancy L.  
Day, William H.  
Drane, Emanuel B.  
Dollarhide, Robert H.  
Dorley, Maggie E.  
Dorsey, Byron W.  
Frank, Chas. B.  
Fray, Richard A.  
Gray, Walter C.  
Harris, D. J.  
Harris, Mrs. D. J.  
Helm, George W.  
Howard, Miss Lizzie.  
Howe, J. W.  
Hughes Geo. T., 2.  
Jackman, Mrs. E. L.  
Keister, Mrs. Gertrude Starratt.  
Key, J. W.  
Masterson, C., 3.  
McCauley, J. F.  
Miller, Herman C., 2.  
Moore, Rev. F. L.  
Newman, Miss Anna.  
Oliver, Geo. W.  
Osburn, Mrs. Geo.  
Phelps, One S.  
Proctor, Henry.  
Purtleman, Harry E., 2.  
Rasmussen, Herbert.  
Rodman, Ed M.  
Sellars, J. W.  
Spencer, Charles R.  
Walter, C. Gray.  
Wann, Wm. H., 2.  
Wegner, Phillip, 2.  
Whitman, John J.  
J. L. PAGE, P. M.