

THE EUGENE WEEKLY GUARD

AN INDEPENDENT PAPER
CHARLES H. FISHER
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THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 1908
PREMIUM PAPERS.

We are again offering either the Oregon Agriculturist or American Farmer free to every subscriber who pays his subscription to the Weekly Guard one year in advance.

HOW MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP MAY YET BE SECURED

The water question has at last resolved itself into a definite issue. The bonds of the city having been rejected on account of legal technicalities, the deal for the purchase of the Willamette Valley Company's plant will have to be declared off.

There can be no hope of improvement of the supply, extension of the plant or ownership by the people unless the election of October 1st is carried in favor of the bonds. Otherwise the private ownership crowd will have scored a complete victory.

The corporation paper prints this morning its platform on the water question, but somehow we doubt its authenticity because it is not signed and approved by A. Welch, of the Willamette Valley Company; also it lacks the official seal of the company.

LIMIT OF HEIGHT OF SKYSCRAPERS

New York will never have an office building a mile high, in spite of all the recent talk to that effect. Indeed, it will never have one half a mile high, unless the present building code is expanded instead of contracted as the present architectural demands, says a magazine writer in a late article.

limit of this weight has just been figured out, and amounts to the enormous amount of fifteen tons to the square foot. On a building lot 200 feet square, which is about the limit in the already crowded downtown district, this will mean a maximum height of 2000 feet.

MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP DEPENDS ON VOTING OF NEW BOND ISSUE

Some days ago The Guard stated that the Willamette Valley Company had a definite scheme on foot in opposing the issuance of bonds to construct a gravity water system; that for no other reason would the corporation have set its newspaper organ at work misrepresenting facts and distorting the truth.

The object of the corporation has developed in the past day or two and is now positively known. It is simply this: The purchasers of the latest bond issue have notified the mayor and city attorney that they have found a fatal defect in proceedings leading up to the election, that the bonds are illegal and they will not buy them.

With those facts before them the people of Eugene can see why the corporation has rallied all its forces for one desperate, last ditch fight, not to oppose the construction of a gravity system, but to defeat the attempt to bring about municipal ownership of the water plant in any form.

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EUGENE'S GROWTH IN ONLY TWO YEARS

Before the end of the present year Eugene will have completed a real skyscraper building, from the local point of view at least. The Odd Fellows' building will be seventy feet high above the curb line of the street, divided into five stories and constructed of beautiful white pressed brick.

Few of our people realize just how fast we have been growing the past two years, and a still smaller number have any real conception of the changes that will take place in the next two years.

IS THE SOIL GIVING OUT?

American soil is losing its fertility, according to James J. Hill. The great railroad magnate ought to know, for he has studied the subject carefully.

The yield in wheat, for instance, has fallen off heavily, says Mr. Hill. While Minnesota soil yielded 13.12 bushels to the acre on the average during the first five years of the past decade, during the last five the average was 12.18.

Mr. Hill makes his point clear by citing the average yield in Denmark—69.19 bushels, which he says is due to scientific cultivation and enrichment of the soil.

PROSPERITY ON ITS WAY

Claiming that improved business conditions justify them in their course, all of the big lumber mills along the Gulf & Ship Island Railroad will be re-opened in the next week or two with a full force.

These are only three of the favorable news items that fill the market reports every day. It all goes to show that, if prosperity is not back again already, it is at least on its way.

THE GUARD'S NEW PLANT

The Eugene Guard has placed an order for a Model 4 linotype machine, the cost price to be \$4900 laid down in that city. It is the new double-deck type that gives the operator the use of four different fonts of type without changing the magazine.

Here is a very sensible observation from the Oregon Agriculturist: "Perhaps it is just as well that some of the owners of young cherry orchards in Oregon are pulling up their trees. Many of those who are doing so probably planted without giving the matter due thought and study.

and received proper care. As it is, the supply of really marketable fruit does not often exceed the demand. As land becomes more valuable and farming more intensive and scientific, this condition will gradually pass away.

It was in Germany that the fireless cook-stove was perfected, and now comes news from a special consular agent that the Germans are making a fireless railroad locomotive. It is equipped with a boiler after the manner of other locomotives, but the water in it is heated to the necessary temperature from a stationary plant.

PAY FOR PICKING BY WEIGHT METHOD

Salem, Or., Aug. 15.—At a meeting of the Hop Growers' Association of Marion county it was unanimously voted that the growers pick by weight and that the price for picking be 80 cents per hundred pounds.

It is to be hoped that the reports of the illness of Secretary of State Benson are exaggerated. No man in public life in this state has more warm friends than he, and none more richly deserves them.

Kentuck's maiden moonshiner, who defied a raiding posse of deputies in a pitched battle, seems to be more familiar with the workings of a Winchester than with Cupid's bow.

JUNCTION NOTES.

Mrs. Grace Broadhead and sister, Miss Daisy Savory, who have been the guests of the family of S. L. Moorhead for the past ten days, returned north Thursday. They may conclude to locate in the valley but have not yet determined on a location.

Dr. Hamilton E. Wright, one of the three United States commissioners to meet in Shanghai next January, may find that he stirred up a hornet's nest when he said: "Prohibition drives men and women to the use of drugs."

The Charleston News and Courier seems to think that the surest way to elect Bryan would be to kidnap "Sunny Jim" Sherman and exhibit him. Yet there are men who dare to doubt the loyalty to Bryan of the editor of the N. and C.

In the elections held of late, mostly primaries, candidates suspected of relations with the "interests" have been swatted hard, which indicates that voters are not so forgetful as some men would like to have them be.

Yet another innovation is it said that every spellbinder is to be "shadowed," and that those who fail to get plenty of applause will be fired.

People are straggling back from the seacoast and mountains and will in due time be rested up from their strenuous summer vacations. After all, editorial experience is an advantage. Just look at the things Mr. Bryan said in that letter of acceptance, in 5200 words.

NEWS FROM LABOR WORLD

Hebrew painters and paper hangers of Boston are reforming their old union. The St. Paul Typographical Union has decided to make a label exhibit at the Minnesota state fair this year.

The girls employed in an Adelaide, Australia, clothing factory went on a strike to resist a reduction of wages. Steam engineers of Cleveland, O., are making strong efforts to introduce eight-hour shifts in packing houses in place of 12-hour shifts.

White and negro longshoremen at New Orleans have signed a five-year contract with the stevedores and steamship agents, establishing a scale. A seceding organization from the Brotherhood of Railroad Employees has taken the name of the Brotherhood of Railroad Station Employees.

The book and job scale of the San Francisco Typographical Union has been increased from \$22 to \$24 a week. All employers have accepted the new scale under an agreement. The telephone service at Sheboygan, Wis., was tied up for two hours recently by a strike of the girl operators, who demanded a week's vacation with pay, and obtained the concession.

Twenty-five hundred children's jacket makers, who went on a strike in New York a few weeks ago, to resist a reduction of wages, have won their strike in all but a few shops and have returned to work at their former wages. The railway trackmen are planning for the establishment of a home for their aged and indigent members. It is proposed to acquire

a tract of five hundred acres near Fort Scott, Kas., upon which to locate the institution. The St. Paul Typographical Union has decided to make a label exhibit at the Minnesota state fair this year.

The National Brotherhood of Operative Patterners has voted to fix an age limit for all apprentices entering the trade. Resolutions were adopted which will hereafter make it necessary for all new apprentices to be sixteen years of over.

In New York state a bill which takes from the health boards of the first-class cities the inspection of mercantile establishments and places it in the hands of the labor department was passed and will go into effect on October 1.

One of the principal matters of the next convention of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, which will meet in Salt Lake City, September 15, is the plan to start an old-age pension, similar to that of the International Typographical Union. It has been announced that the well-known English labor leader, J. W. Wainwright, who is also a member of parliament, intends to attend the conference with the Trades and Labor Congress, to be held at Halifax, N. S., on September 21, and that he will also attend a meeting of miners at Springfield.

Representatives of the Glassblowers of America won a notable victory on the final day of their recent wage conference with the manufacturers of glass bottles, which was held at Atlantic City, N. J., when they obtained a wage scale at the same figure as last year, with the same working hours.

DISCOVERER OF CRATER LAKE DEAD

Isaac K. Skeeters, the first white man to view the wondrous beauty of Crater lake, died at his home on Jackson street, in this city, last night at 10 o'clock. The end came peacefully, following an illness extending over the past eight or nine months, due to general debility, brought on by old age and the undergoing of an operation which consisted of the amputation of his left limb above the ankle joint.

Skeeter celebrated his 84th birthday on December 19. He was born in Hardin county, Kentucky, in 1825. He came across the plains in 1852 by a team and wagon, landing in Jacksonville the same year. He has resided in Jackson county for 44 years, having spent ten years in Josephine county. In June, 1853, with a party of 22, Mr. Skeeters left for a prospecting trip and while gone discovered Crater lake.—Medford Tribune.

SET TRIAL OF STEVENS' SLAYER

San Francisco, Aug. 17.—The case in which Whang Chang, accused of the murder of Durham White Stevens, former advisor to the Korean government, came up today before Judge Conley, sitting in Judge Cook's department of the superior court, and was set for trial September 21.

NOTE AND COMMENT

Grants Pass, Or., people are anxious to buy out the water company of that city because of high rates and poor service. French physicians have found a new and, they say, infallible remedy for sunstroke. It is chloroform.

Richard Croker, former boss of Tammany, announces that he will return to America next month in order to assist in the election of Bryan. The Baldwin dirigible balloon performed its endurance test of remaining two hours in the air Saturday afternoon. The machine, in fact, was aloft two hours and five minutes.

This fete now completes all the requirements for the acceptance of the Baldwin airship. The ship in its evolutions approached Washington and circled freely at various speeds while performing the tests. Colonel Baldwin will now be entitled to the money offered by the government, \$100,000, for a successful balloon.

If you take Kodol in the beginning the bad attacks of dyspepsia will be avoided, but if you allow these little attacks to go unheeded it will take Kodol a longer time to put your stomach in good condition again. Get a bottle of Kodol today. Sold by all druggists.

Arthur Hendershot returned from Newport yesterday and reports the weather there now as delightful, but much warmer than formerly. From now on, he says, is the best time of the year to go to the beach.

The immediate survivors are the widow and the following children: Emory Herron, South Bend, Wash.; Robert, who lives on a part of the old home place; Clayton, who occupies the old home; Mrs. C. A. Bushnell, of Seattle, Wash.; and Miss Margaret who was with her mother the Robert Herron home. Another daughter, Lizzie, is deceased.

Born—August 2, 1908, to Mr. and Mrs. Peter Harpole, a son.—Times.

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