

THE EUGENE WEEKLY GUARD

AN INDEPENDENT PAPER

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Subscription price, \$1.50 per year, if paid in advance; \$2.00 at end of year.

Entered at Eugene, Oregon, postoffice as second-class matter Published every Thursday at Eugene, Oregon.

Agents for The Guard

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 1909

NECESSITY FOR ROAD TO COAST

Several thousand dollars were subscribed to the stock of the Eugene-Siuslaw railroad yesterday, mostly in small amounts. A majority of the people of Eugene see the great necessity for such a railroad and are helping along what they can afford to in the way of raising the funds necessary to the commencement of work. Still, there are many large property owners whose interests would be greatly benefited by it, who are either holding back their subscriptions, or making the amounts so small that they are inconsequential.

Those who are assisting this enterprise to the best of their ability have considered the railroad situation here in an intelligent way, and have reached the only logical conclusion—that we cannot build up a large city, with factory payrolls, until the problem of transportation facilities is solved.

Nothing except a short haul to navigable water over an independent line of road will ever secure for Eugene terminal rates—or anything approaching such rates, no matter how many other railroads build into the city. This is a fact that should not be lost sight of, because without more favorable freight rates there can never be any large and successful factories here.

We have it in our power to build a railroad to the Siuslaw, which will naturally be extended to Coos Bay if the community unites upon the movement. Without such a road it will always be a hard struggle to secure such industries as will be found necessary in the building up of a prosperous city.

NO GOOD ARGUMENT AGAINST IT

Did you ever hear a single good reason why the Eugene-Siuslaw railroad should not be built? It will open up and develop a good territory, rich in timber, fruit and dairy resources—that means increased wealth and population for Lane county, and dividends for the stockholders in the road. Could anything more be asked? That we are able to build this railroad and own and operate it ourselves must be accepted without argument. It should not be a hard matter to raise \$150,000, and that sum will build and equip the first section of the road across the valley to the timber district. This railroad will pay dividends and will insure the sale of bonds for the completion of the road on to the coast. It will make Eugene a jobbing and manufacturing city, because of its splendid transportation facilities and low freight rates, and we will have here, within a few years, an interior city, second to none in the Northwest.

REGARDING THE DEADLY FLY

Seven different varieties of flies are found in our houses, 98 per cent of which are represented by the common house fly. Flies lay their eggs only in fermenting or decaying substances—by preference in horse manure. Hence every stable is a centre of infection unless periodically disinfected. The fly maggot is also hatched out in latrines and ashpit refuse, such as bedding, straw, rags, paper, scraps of meat, fruit, etc., on which substances the larvae exist after they are hatched, which occurs in about twelve days after the egg has been laid. It is estimated that a single fly, laying 120 eggs at a time, will produce a progeny amounting to sextillions by the end of the season.

The number of bacteria upon a single fly have been proved to range all the way from 550 to 6,600,000. The average for 414 flies which were examined at the agricultural experiment station at Storrs, Conn., last year was 1,230,000 bacteria apiece. This represents about the number of bacteria that enter the human system when one swallows a glass of liquid into which some fly has perhaps fallen, to be removed by the slovenly waiter without the liquid being thrown away.

GREAT CEREAL CROP THIS YEAR

This year's cereal crop will be among the greatest ever grown in the United States, according to the estimates contained in the August wheat, corn and cereal crop report issued this week by the department of agriculture. A gain of more than 700,000,000 bushels in all grains over last year is indicated, and the bumper yield of three years ago will probably be exceeded.

Crops of corn and oats will likely smash all records. A loss in winter wheat as compared with a year ago will be offset by a larger yield of spring wheat, which will bring the total to a considerable excess over the 1908 crop. Some important interests in the trade figure that the consumptive demand has grown enough to absorb this difference, and that before the entire crop is harvested we will run into a period of actual shortages rather than a surplus. It is also figured that foreign requirements easily will take all wheat which is not needed for domestic purposes, as crop conditions are generally understood to be unsatisfactory in most of the Old World grain raising districts.

A HIGH CALLING

Year by year the influence of the press has been extended until at this time it is far and away the most potent factor in modern life. Not only does modern journalism influence politics, but it is coming more and more to affect the moral life of the people.

"Is the newspaper press to be the great custodian of morals? Shall the church resign its de facto leadership?" says the Editor and Publisher.

"Religion and morality have come out of the steeped edifices into the streets, the theatres, the secular public halls, to be

a subject of discussion, side by side with the subjects of politics and economics. It is the newspapers that have brought them out of the sacredotal doors.

"Would not ministers of religion more effectively promote their cause by going hand in hand with the press?"

"And what of the press and its future as a moral force?"

"We went along the street in a certain city. We talked with a stationer, a jeweler, a dry goods merchant, a blacksmith and a lawyer. We asked about a certain successful paper, and this is what they said:

"It is a good paper, one of the best in the state. We read it at home. It is good because the man who owns and runs it is good. His character is reflected through the paper."

"Shall the newspaper finally assume formal leadership in morality?"

"Consider the responsibility. It is greatest upon the publisher. It is full upon every editor, every reporter, every member of the business staff. It rests upon every man and woman who loyally helps to make the newspaper."

"Shall it undertake it?"

"It is a grand work."

A short time ago a man named Pointer committed suicide in New York. The next morning the newspapers of that city made only a brief mention of the tragedy, for the man was poor and friendless. All kinds of deaths are chronicled every day by the press. Occasionally a sensation is sprung, and for weeks thereafter the name of the dead person is printed several times a day, remarks an exchange. After the Pointer case had been investigated in accordance with city ordinance and state law, it developed that the man had once been a staff officer with Joe Wheeler. He was brevetted for gallantry. After the war he engaged in various enterprises, mostly unfortunate, but all honorable. In the end he found himself still a soldier with a proud spirit, but penniless. In the pockets of the dead man were found a number of pawn tickets. The one bearing the most recent date was connected with a confederate medal of honor. Everything else had gone before it. There are Colonel Pointers in every county and state, old and young, who have had their days of fortune and misfortune, all worthy sufferers, too proud to beg, too honest to steal, all succumbing slowly to the inevitable. Unfortunately they do not seek the relief that would be given them. There are philanthropists and churches and the Salvation Army always in search of isolated and uncomplaining misery. The penniless, friendless man with the proud spirit is the unhappiest man of all.

The fruit raisers whose places are in the hills south of Eugene aver that their land is better than the valley low land for apples, pears and peaches. If this is so, even in part, the fruit resources of Lane county are limited only by the orchards planted and cultivated. A fruit district, however, is not merely land; it is a matter of people, not only the capitalist who can invest money, but of small growers. With the spread of fruit principles and methods all of Western Oregon will become an orchard and garden. The farms, instead of being in what are now frequently considered small one hundred or forty acre tracts, will be ten and twenty-acre plots. Where the scrub oak or the fir now stands, the prune, the peach, the cherry and a score of other varieties, some yet unborn, perhaps, will blossom.

The district fair of the Second Southern Oregon District Agricultural Society promises to be an event which will attract a great deal of attention. A year ago grounds were bought by Eugene citizens, and work has been going on there continuously so that now Eugene has a place for Lane county's fairs as good as any city in the valley. The new grounds will be first used for fair and exhibit purposes next month, the district fair taking place there from September 7th to 11th inclusive, five days in all. The committee in charge of the advertising has just put up hundreds of handsome lithographs and the fair association is working in earnest to make the fair a grand success.

The first thing the newcomer asks of any town is, "What keeps it up?" "What makes it?" "What industries and resources are behind this place?" You hear these questions on the streets, on the trains, in the hotel lobbies, everywhere. It is the duty of every Eugene citizen, in spite of all the advertising Eugene has had, all the favorable mentions, and the reputation that she has acquired, to speak of the wonderful resources of Lane county upon which Eugene's prosperity rests, of the boundless forests, of the wonderful fruit, and of the cattle and grain crops. Pick out the things that the newcomer is interested in, the things he knows about, and show where they exist.

Now that vacation time is almost over and people are returning to their homes and business, the Siuslaw railroad movement should receive a new impetus and the money necessary to justify the commencement of the work should be raised in a hurry. Eugene and Lane county need this railroad in order to keep up present growth and prosperity. An outlet to navigable water will give us all the benefits that should accrue from the construction of a railroad to cross the mountains into Eastern Oregon. It would make Eugene the distributing point for a vast territory now in the first stages of development. Why can't every property owner and businessman realize the importance of this movement?

There is one thing that the elder Mrs. Thaw can be thankful for, and that is, she will know where her son is at nights during the next few years. The court has finally decided that the young man is as mad as the proverbial March hare, and while we do not entirely agree with the court, still it is just as well that he be in an asylum or jail. It requires the services of too many officers to watch him when he is running at large.

While digging the foundation for the enlarged executive offices in Washington, a well-preserved souvenir of the Roosevelt dynasty was uncovered, and will probably be given a conspicuous place in the National Museum. It is a rubber ball, which historians are sure was used in playing the once popular game of tennis.

Weber Wagons at Cost

We have the following Weber Wagons and intend to close them out at once AT COST. They need no recommendation, but show for themselves.

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1 only, 3 1/4-inch, steel skein gear, with doub	\$107.50

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