

## Eastern Clackamas News

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## Abuse of the Initiative

## May be Its Undoing

The La Grande Observer seriously discusses the possible abolition of the initiative and the referendum as well, owing to the abuse to which the former has been subjected. It is evident that the initiative has been used for freak purposes. It would seem that any one with wheels in his head, can get enough signers to place a measure, no matter how foolish, on the ballot. The latest instance is that which proposes to reduce the legal rate of interest to four per cent and the contract rate to five per cent. On the face of it to those unacquainted with finance, this would seem to be a consummation devoutly to be wished, but put to a pragmatical test, it would work disaster. For example:

An eastern Oregon stockman recently said to his banker, "We will fix you fellows at the next election so we will get money cheaper."

"You owe some \$20,000 at this bank, do you not," said the banker. "Yes I do," said the stockraiser.

"Well," said the banker. "If by any chance such a fool law as this should pass, you would get notice in the next mail to pay up your loan. The money which you are using is loaned to you by our bank for eastern clients as you know very well a small bank like ours could not loan you \$20,000. If this bill passes no person would loan money in Oregon any more than you would sell cattle here if a law were passed limiting the price you could sell for in this state to one-half or two-thirds what you could get outside the state. It would be the same with all industry. Nobody would loan money at 4 and 5 per cent in Oregon. The borrower is the man who would suffer, for the man loaning money could lend elsewhere while the borrower in Oregon would be without funds."

"Think it over."

Three weeks from today will be Christmas.

The coal situation, the Mexican imbroglio and the rejection of the peace treaty hardly conduce towards a merry Christmas. But for a few hours on that day we will try to forget them and dream dreams of the time "when nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

Lady Astor, American and Virginian born, has been elected a member of parliament and taken her seat, as the first lady member so to do. It seems rather curious that women have been kept out so long from parliament when from the earliest time of English history, they have been eligible to take their seat on the throne. A greater triumph is still in store for them, when one of the sex shall sit on the woolsack in the House of Lords as Lady High Chancellor of the realm and keeper of the king's conscience.

## Berry Land a Bonanza

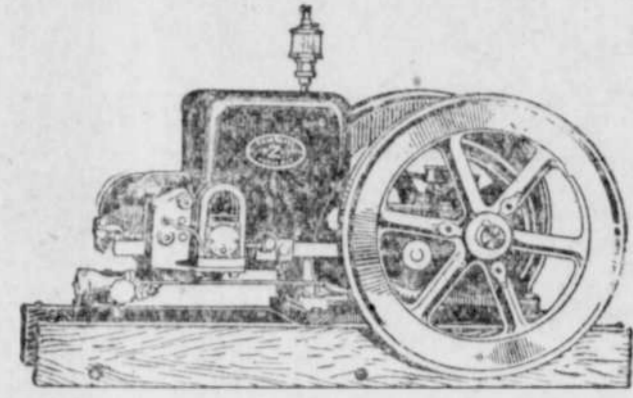
The local berry men are enthusiastic about the financial returns of their vines. Messrs. J. S. Osborne and W. R. Woodworth report yields bringing \$800 to \$1,000 per acre, from strawberries, black caps, red raspberries and logan berries. The last named are set 680 plants to the acre, and net the grower \$1 to \$1.50 per plant. It is not surprising then, that the small fruit business has received a decided impetus this year, and with a cannery next year in operation and with the aid of the Oregon Fruit Growers association, many are planning to engage in it. Hood River has nothing on Estacada when it comes to berry land.

## State Teachers' Association

The Oregon State Teachers' Association will meet in Portland December 29-30-31. This will undoubtedly be the largest and most important teachers' convention ever held in this state. Already the number of teachers who have enrolled and paid their fees far exceeds that of any previous year. Delegates from every county and from every local teachers' organization in the state will attend the business meetings of the representative council. This meeting as well as all of the other sessions is open to all teachers in the state.

## Christmas Seals

The state society for the prevention of tuberculosis will have Christmas seals for sale. Everyone should invest at least a quarter in them, as the proceeds go for fighting this white plague which is cutting down its victims in tens of thousands annually.



## The New 1½ H. P. "Z" Engine successfully uses KEROSENE

THERE is much to interest every farmer in this announcement, because adding this recently perfected small size completes a line of engines—1½ H. P. to 15 H. P.—all of which successfully run on

## KEROSENE

—also run on Distillate, Coal Oil, Tops or Gasoline.

The larger "Z" engines always have successfully used Kerosene—now the new 1½ H. P. size does too—thereby completing the most practical and efficient engine line ever offered. But you cannot know the "Z" by reading about it. Come in and see it. Let us tell you why we add our reputation to that of Fairbanks, Morse & Co. when selling a "Z" to you.

Throttling Governor—Built-in Oscillating Magneto

Prices—1½ H. P. \$61.00—3 H. P. \$100.00  
6 H. P. \$179.00 F. O. B. Factory.

Reed & Shibley

We want you to know we are still in business, selling MAXWELL, OAKLAND, ESSEX, CHANDLER and VELIE CARS. Also agents for several leading TRUCKS.

At present time we are busy putting in Freshwater Systems, Electric Light Plants, Plumbing of all kinds and installing the farmers Z ENGINE, now being equipped with the Bosh Magneto.

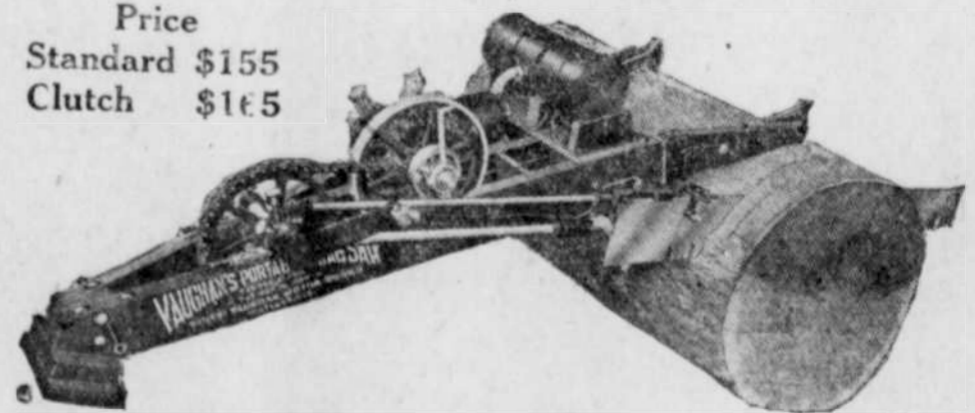
Anybody contemplating work in our line, we would be pleased to have them call on us for specifications and prices. Work guaranteed. Office at rear of drug store.

Reed & Shibley

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The stores are beginning to get out their Christmas displays, the Pharmacy's windows glisten with Christmas decorations and gifts. Look up the ad. of the Peoples' store which will have a more extended announcement next week, on this important matter. It will not be necessary to go to the metropolis this year on this account.