

# BROAD-AXE

HOW TO THE LINE, LET THE CHIPS FALL WHERE THEY MAY.

VOL IV

EUGENE, LANE COUNTY, ORE. WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1900

NO. 35

## SOME MORE QUERIES AS TO THE INSANE ASYLUM

THE CATECHISM.—THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES TAKEN INTO THE CONFIDENCE OF THE NEWS GATHERER.—A CHAPTER OF INTEREST FROM START TO FINISH.

Salem Sentinel (Rep.)

Agreeable to its promise of last week the Sentinel resumes its catechism of affairs relating to the mismanagement of the Oregon state insane asylum. As the lives and welfare of a thousand unfortunates are concerned and inasmuch as the conduct of the institution consumes a great share of the state revenues, these inquiries are proper. The Sentinel has no personal feeling in the matter. All it is looking after is the interest of the taxpayer and the welfare of the unfortunates. For Dr Paine we entertain no ill will. There is positively no animosity. The owners of this paper never applied to him for a job; were never turned down by him. They never asked any favors of him; hence were refused none. The writer has no more than a passing acquaintance with him. We do not "have it in for him" nor the board, nor for any member of the board. But we do know of corrupt practices at that institution that have cost and are still costing the taxpaying element of Oregon tens upon tens of thousands of dollars annually. Our desire is to stop the leaks—to abate this corruption and save money to the "common herd." We have cited circumstances that are backed by affidavits and have urged the board to investigate.

Dare they do it?

If they do it will be to heap no praise upon the management of the institution under their administration.

There is no question but for the newspaper criticism instituted by this paper last summer Paine would have been retained as superintendent for another four years. Some persons are asking what good are these criticisms. Our answer is in the above.

Having no desire to be sensational or invade the field of the yellow journals, this paper has carefully avoided the moral (immoral would be the proper word) aspect of the case. That there is an immoral side to it is well known. Honest, innocent, virtuous women employed there have come with tears in their eyes and recited stories of base proposals. But as it is not our mission to reform the world or even bring into the controversy the names of pure women we have left that part of the investigation for the board.

However as more queries were promised the following may be answered by the board or Supt Paine.

In the promotion of employes at a public institution like the asylum is it proper to advance certain parties just because Eugene chan-

ces to be their best over older, and faithful employees?

Is it just the thing to keep all the good things in the family? For instance, if you are every day sewing for photographs of their unfortunates relatives. A member of Paine's family takes the photos.

Is nepotism to prevail forever in Oregon? Two of the superintendent's daughters are porters. They work when they please and look to him alone for orders and leaves of absence.

Would it be right and proper for the superintendent of an institution like this to send delicacies bought and paid for by the state to dining employes with "his" compliments or to lend books from the prison library with the same personal compliments?

Would it be right to employ a relative as carpenter, knowing that he is no mechanic and then put him to work on the new wing at \$2.50 a day, while a regular employ at \$50 a month (a stone mason) works on the wing improvement at his regular wages, while \$6 a day is paid the other masons employed thereon? Is such favoritism honest?

When the employes of an institution are troubled in their own minds as to the right of certain "duties" they are required to perform, is it to be wondered that upon the departure of a doughty boss they feel free to talk and assist in the exposure of abuses and thereby clear their consciences and at the same time serve the state a good purpose?

Having received no response as to the patient, House, the Texan, how about Vanderwall and St John of Eastern Oregon?

Even if the board should give their consent would it be right for the superintendent to have the asylum mechanics, who are employed at the expense of the reader make a fine iron bedstead—from material belonging to the state—for the superintendent and to be taken away from the institution when he departs?

Would you think it manly to sell a dying insane consumptive an old sofa and rocking chair—furniture that was old before it came to Salem from Eugene at a "blank" price, the insane man being coerced into signing a receipt for something in blank, just because he had money in the safe and was going to die and didn't need or couldn't use either sofa or rocking chair? Was not this man's name John Hanson?

And that box of tea. How about it?

In the management of an asylum is it proper for the state's seamstresses to do the family sewing for the superintendent, or for the asylum tailor to make clothes for the superintendent?

Suppose an asylum superintendent should order the supervisor to compel the insane patients to sign receipts in blank, thus giving

away their money for value not received, and later on the supervisor's conscience should trouble him, who would be to blame for his mental anguish? This is upon the assumption that the supervisor is an honest man who has a conscience and who has witnessed many such "signatures" of poor demented mortals who didn't fit such old clothes or shoes as might be furnished them for their good money thus signed away.

In the interest of justice it is to be hoped employes who in carrying out orders that they knew were frauds will be forgiven the day of final reckoning. Their jobs have depended upon it. But now the suspense is about over and they feel more free in taking over the existing abuses among themselves. In fact they are doing so. But best of all our inquiry has already borne fruit as quite a few articles belonging to the state have already been returned that were booked for shipment.

### SNAP SHOTS.

Here is a copy of the blank receipts patients at the asylum are signing. There is a blank line for a witness where the patient is too crazy to sign his name and makes a scrawl only.

### OREGON STATE INSANE ASYLUM.

Dr. D. A. Paine, Supt: Please pay \_\_\_\_\_ Dollars out of any funds in your hands belonging to me.

It is understood a reward of \$100 is offered for information leading to the discovery of the Sentinel's authority for truths from the asylum.

A "special" from Eugene says Lowenfeldt is happy there thumping away on a typewriting machine in the private sanitarium.

Did Kuykendall go to Portland on a river steamer, accompanied to the boat by an asylum attendant, while railroad fare to Central Point was charged?

Did Vanderwall really have money of his own and buy his own ticket to Baker City while the blank receipt racket was worked upon him against his will?

### Officers Working on the Case

Cottage Grove, Or., Jan. 10.—Miss Winnie Thorne, who disappeared Sunday night, was returned home on Tuesday morning's overland in a most wretched and shameful condition. Her story and experience as told is one of the worst crimes ever perpetrated in the state.

She says that as she was on her way to Lathem from church services here, the south-bound freight train was just this side of Lathem taking wood. Just before the train started two men caught her and put her on a flatcar, she not knowing what transpired till the train got nearly to Comstock, when she was put in a boxcar. Between

there and Roseburg, four men shamefully misused her. The boxcar was locked and she was kept there until about noon the next day, when two strange men let her out. She went to a house and got something to eat and ascertained where her uncle lived, some two miles distance. Upon reaching there she was given some food and was brought back to the station and furnished a ticket for Cottage Grove.

Marshal Miller took her home from the station. When crossing the bridge she attempted to jump in the river, saying she was disgraced and had nothing to live for.

Sheriff Withers and Prosecuting Attorney Harris, of Eugene, came up and are investigating the case. A physician states that the case is fully as bad as reported. Three warrants were sworn out, and the sheriff and constable left on this afternoon's train for Roseburg, where further developments will be made.

### Our Braves of Manila.

Here is just a little foretaste of how things are carried on as detailed by Henry Little Manila correspondent of the Chicago Tribune, as given in the Public of Chicago. It appears that a Filipino soldier had been shot while defending San Fabian by some of Col Hares' sharp shooter, shot through the head by five shooters, as five bullet holes plainly showed. This feat of Col Hares' men it appears General Wheaton and Col Hare's thought was something to be proud of. But, as matters turned out, Col Hare's regiment were more than sharpshooters as the following will show:

"Gen Wheaton had asked Col Hare, some of whose men had shot the Filipino, how many men in his regiment were sharpshooters. After learning from the adjutant that in the regiment there were 1,246 men all told, Col Hare answered his general:

"Then, general," said Col Hare, "we have 1,246 sharpshooters."

"And how many poker players have you, colonel?" pursued the general.

"Twelve hundred, sir,"

"What's the matter with the other 46?" asked the general.

"Religious or stricken blind?"

"Nothing, sir," said the colonel, "only poker is not their game. They shoot craps."

The general went out on the road that night and looked at the dead insurgent, with five bullet holes through his head. Then he went back to his mess and said: "Gentlemen, if that Thirty-third can play poker and craps like they can shoot they are dangerous."

The mess looked sadly and knowingly at one another.

"They can, general," was remarked. In all the American traditions of British ruffianism during our revolution, what rival shall you find to that?"

Cowardly ruffians could do no more.

### The First Court.

Judge Boise on Tuesday afternoon held the first term of circuit court in the new court house. He was also the first judge to hold circuit court in the old court house. Previous to that he used to hold court in the round court house, or almost any old place. At one time he remembers court being held under an oak tree, the jury sitting on a log. Before being circuit judge Mr Boise was district attorney, and was thus present at court as early as 1854. He has many pleasant reminiscences to tell of early courts.—Peoples Press.

[Judge Boise is a Populist and all round reformer whose history is part and parcel of Oregon's history.—Etc.]

The World is making it so hot for Sec Gage for his embezzlement of the proceeds of the custom house sale for the benefit of the Standard Oil Bank, that the public demands his resignation.

We hear it stated on the street that the anti A P A's of the Republican party are whetting up their knives to cut and slash Brother A C Jennings if he gets on the ticket for county judge.

The tax levy for Marion county for the present year is as follows:

	Mills
General county fund.....	10.4
State School fund.....	4.5
Indigent soldier's fund.....	1
Scalp bounty fund.....	25
	15.25

This levy will raise on a valuation \$7,917,287 \$129,994.16, which is to run county expenditures. This amount is some \$30,000 less than Lane county expended for all purposes last year.

### COUNTY NOTES.

Still raining as we go to press Tuesday.

A number of late New York Weekly Tribunes for free distribution at this office.

The Steamer city of Eugene is again on the river, and "doing business at the old stand."

A man by the name of Rupert, aged about 60 years was found dead in his cabin near Junction City Monday.

Patterson, the accomplice in the Winnie Thorne case was located in Albany Monday, and sheriff Withers has gone after him.

The tax levy for Lane county is for state 63 mills; county 8 mills; school 5 mills; courthouse 2 mills; road and rock crusher 2.2 mills. The city levy will run the mills up to over 30 mills to property owners in the city.

Within the past weeks we have had an unusual glut of rain. The river has been booming, getting up to the 164 feet above low water mark, presenting the appearance of a young sea, in the bottom across the bridge north of the river. Great quantities of drift has been going down for several days.