

FOREST GROVE PRESS

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EDITOR AND OWNER

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Truth demands a reckoning from all. Those who seek to avoid him must later pay the interest and cost as well as the principle.

New Organization One of the leading citizens for Forest Grove of this city this week pro-Commercial Club posed to the editor of the is Earnestly Urged PRESS a new organization for the Forest Grove Commercial Club. In his proposal he advocated the raising of a sufficient amount to establish suitable headquarters, to which should be added sufficient dues to maintain open rooms and to promote real development work. We are to prone to rest easy on our oars, trusting to the nature current of progress to carry us down the stream of development. Where one is riding in as trustworthy a craft as are the people of Forest Grove and its tributary territory, such is not so dangerous a policy; but it is not safe to throw away the oars. A well organized commercial club will place the proper oars in the hands of our citizens; and will secure the team work necessary to win the race, to pull out of the back eddies, and to avoid dangerous places in the progressive current.

We do not make this appeal on any fancied patriotic grounds. It is a simple business matter. After the first cost of a few dollars, each and every citizen in this town could well afford to pay a dollar a month to promote the work of such an organization.

When the time arrives for the consideration of the matter, which will not be very far in the future, let every business man and property owner in this city and surrounding territory respond in a way that will show from the first that the Forest Grove commercial club will be a well founded business organization. Let us perfect a club that will be able to appear in the foremost ranks of the factors that will direct the great development of this state in the coming years.

In our praise of this wonderful valley, and our industrious farmers, let us not forget the thoughtful Creator who occasionally sends us the little showers, just as they are needed. Eastern reports seem to indicate his partiality to Oregon, and why not? It is truly his masterpiece.

What Forest Grove Needs There are innumerable improvements desirable for any community, no matter how near to the "Utopia" it may have advanced; and the only way for a city to maintain its proper standard is to earnestly strive for the greatest possible development.

Forest Grove is primarily a city of homes, schools and churches; a center for a great farming section; the embryo of an extensive industrial activity.

There are many needs common to many places; but there are some handicaps now permitted by us that other communities have removed and as a consequence are advancing accordingly.

The citizens of Forest Grove told the Portland newspaper men that what was most needed was a lumber mill. With the millions of feet of timber standing on the nearby hills, the success of such an industry would be certain. We do need a larger payroll, and a sawmill would materially increase the present amount.

We need better roads. Washington county's roads are far inferior to those of many other Willamette Valley counties. Money wisely spent on roads will pay the greatest dividend of any investment, to the farmer, the merchant and citizen.

We need an organized, wide awake, constructive, commercial club. The days of Hot Air boosting are over; but the time for intelligent assistance to development has just begun. The co-operative spirit fostered by the developing commercial club will pay, if no other benefits are derived, by simply increasing the inertia of our own spirits.

We need a greater intensified production from our soil. There is not one half of the available tillable land in Washington county that is now cultivated. It should be our aim to locate a family on every forty acres in this county. One family cannot properly care for more than forty acres, while forty acres will bountifully care for any family.

We need a more diversified production. By the proper selection of seed, and the scientific care of the soil and crops, any product adaptable to a temperate climate and a rich soil, will thrive in this country. The more varied our sources of revenue, the more immune will we become from any disturbances of markets, and the possible calamity of crop failure.

We need more livestock on the farms. The ranges are rapidly disappearing and in their places farmers' home are springing up. It will not be long when all live stock will be raised in little bands on every farm in the country.

We need more co-operation among the producers and also among the consumers; and we need inter-co-operation between the two groups, and every man should belong to both.

We need a better and higher social life among the rural districts. We need other things also. Let us demand what we need for the demand is solely upon ourselves. We can make good if we will. Will we?

The bears and the bulls are trying to develop an appetite for Willamette Valley prunes and hops. If they do, the grower and consumer should promptly administer the "Keeley cure."

Sowing his wild oats in youth will soon be looked upon in the same light as we now look upon the wasteful habit of summerfallowing newly broken land.

MORE RAILROAD PROBLEMS WHICH MIGHT LEAD TO ARBITRATION.



CLIPPED HERE AND THERE

Mint Will Grow.
That mint will grow luxuriantly on the Camas Prairie bottom land, much of which is owned by local men, is the opinion of a number of experts in this line of agriculture, who have recently visited the section in northwestern Klickitat county.—Exchange

The Country Paper.
The country weekly has a field peculiarly its own. The city daily reaches out into the small towns and even into the rural precincts, but it covers the territory only superficially. It touches only on the big general topics in which the people as a whole have, but only a long range interest. In the daily they may read able articles and editorials, on trusts, the Webb bill and the general news of the world; but to read and learn about local happenings and conditions—things which virtually and personally concern them in their every day life—their only forum is the country weekly.

terest. He knows their condition, physically and financially. He knows what they want and what they need and what they are doing about it.

The above from the American Press speaks of the successful county editors attributes. The editor of the PRESS is desirous of gaining these requirements as quickly as he can, and until he becomes better acquainted with you and your great county he desires your help and suggestion in aiding him to make this paper a true representative of its field.

Henry Wirtz spent Monday in Beaverton putting in a furnace.

Casper Jasper and family were in the Grove on business Friday.

Little Bernice Via of Buxton is visiting with her grandmother Mrs. Via of this city.

Mr. A. B. Todd and family returned from a three weeks vacation to Tillamook beaches.

Edwy Dibble, a P. U. student who lives at Troutdale, Oregon, was seen on our streets the first of the week.

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LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

The PRESS is always glad to receive communications from its readers on either side of any subject. While we do not intend to straddle the fence, we will always give space to any sincere communication.

WOMEN VOTER WRITES

Advocates the Retention of Municipal Electric Service.

Dear Editor:
Why this seeming apathy and indifference in regard to the proposition to do away with our Municipal Light Plant and so soon after our strenuous campaign last fall to retain it. The writer felt sure there would be such a storm of disapproval in last weeks papers, she refrained from having anything to say. Are the voters asleep that they will allow this injustice to be worked out.

We are not suffering for a day current anymore now than we were then, so why this change of sentiment. We have been led to believe our plant was not only a "Money Saver" but a "Money Maker". Will the Oregon Washington Company make us money also?

We know what it is, at least most of us do, to be under the strict laws of corporation rule and if they give us ever so fair a demonstration of what they can

save us, we know what it will narrow down to in time. As many of you remember Mr. Hill made us the same kind of a proposition and was just as ready to prove it but it would have been little less than criminal at that time to have listened to him.

I believe if it were put to vote the people would declare against this procedure but the people have not been given any voice this time.

A Women Voter.

NOTE:—The Editor seems to view the matter in about the same light, only, if the Washington Oregon Company will contract to wholesale electricity to the city cheaper than the city can generate it, it would be a beneficial business arrangement to enter into a few year contract, or to enter a contract avoidable at the end of any year if the city so saw fit. On such a basis the city could save ware and tear on their present plant, and still maintain it for future use at any time they saw fit.

The matter of a 24 hour current would be an advantage, but the same can be furnished by the city comparatively as easy as by

the Washington Oregon Company.

Other articles on this question will be appreciated by the Editor.

Our Boys' Opportunity.

Luther Burbank, by experience and accomplishment doubtless the best qualified man in the world today to make such a statement, says, the great opportunity for our boys and young is in agriculture. He points out that after the young man has spent eight years at hard study of medicine, the law or engineering, he has not made a success; he is only prepared to commence the battle for it. Whereas, to add but one kernel of corn to each ear grown in this country in a single year would increase the supply five million bushels. One improvement in the potato is already paying back \$17,000,000 a year. Everything we eat and wear comes out of the ground. With less than half our populating raising things, should there be any wonder that the cost of living has increased 58 per cent in fifteen years? To quote from Mr. Burbank:
"What the world needs urg-