



NEWBERG TURNED DOWN.

County Court Refuses to Recognize Rights of this End of County

"Deliberately turned down!" That was the sentiment or feeling of the party of business men and tax payers who journeyed from here to the county seat last Thursday to show the justice of the claims of citizens in this section of the county for the continuance of the free ferry. The party consisted of Attorney Clarence Butt, Mayor Jesse Edwards, B. C. Miles, J. C. Hodson, C. J. Edwards, Dr. H. A. Littlefield and John and Chas. Larkin. The members of the court were clearly and carefully shown the justice of the claim made by this end of the county—but to no avail. The court evidently assumes that Newberg and vicinity is not entitled to any return from the heavy taxes which go from here into the county treasury. In other words, "If you people down there want any bridges or ferries, get busy and put up for them. We'll use your taxes for improvements elsewhere."

In brief the situation is this. The free ferry southeast of Newberg has been in successful operation for two years. Marion and Yamhill county each appropriated five hundred dollars for maintaining it for that length of time, an additional sum being subscribed by the business men of Newberg. Now that the time for the appropriation has passed, the free ferry idea must be abandoned unless the two counties again give aid. The Marion county court has made the appropriation, evincing much liberality in thus aiding her citizens to come over into another county to trade. But what a spectacle! Yamhill county is the one which derives the real benefits, yet its Bourbon Court says, "Not a cent for such improvements."

However, in justice, it must be stated that the severe criticism which is being heaped upon the court in no way applies to Commissioner R. L. Booth, of Willamina, who has been consistent in favoring the appropriation. Though living in the other end of the county, he is well acquainted with the situation here, understands the conditions, and recognizes that the people down here are entitled to what they are asking.

The first objection made by the judge was that appropriation for such an improvement is not legal. But when confronted with opinions to the contrary by District Attorney J. H. McNary, Attorney John M. Gearin, of Portland, and the late Judge C. B. Bellinger, of the United States District Court, he had to hedge from that position.

He was more sincere in his second objection, to the effect that Newberg is not entitled to county funds for any such purpose.

Feeling is very strong here over the turning down of the free ferry. The Graphic has approached several on the subject and finds the sentiment everywhere the same. As Dr. Littlefield puts it: "The action of the court is an insult to the people of this community." A "square deal" was sought and the people here feel that they have been treated as if they had been caught trying to work some graft.

Mayor Jesse Edwards has not yet given up hope that something will be done. "What we ask is so manifestly just" he says, "that I don't believe the members of the court can be so unreasonable. It isn't a mere local improvement we are advoc-

ating. It is of some local benefit, it is true, but that is covered by the subscriptions made by Newberg business men. We are asking the court for appropriation only so far as the ferry is a county improvement. We put up for what local benefit there is. I have placed the matter before several representative men of the county, and without exception they say our demands are just."

Clarence Butt has been one of the most active citizens in behalf of the free ferry and is greatly chagrined, even disgusted, over the action of the court. "We asked only what we are fully entitled to" he says, "and feel that we have been deliberately turned down. The ferry has been in operation for two years and has proven an entire success. The people have become accustomed to it and are bitterly disappointed at the prospect of its discontinuance. The people on the Marion side have lately subscribed \$365 toward repairing the road down to the ferry, and \$100 has been raised for road improvements on this side. This is evidence of their interest and good faith."

As to the contention that it is a local proposition, Mr. Butt cites the fact that the roads of Marion, Clackamas and Yamhill counties converge naturally in this vicinity, with no means of crossing the Willamette. This was the only free crossing between the Salem and Oregon City bridges and was fast becoming recognized as the link making possible a through inter-county highway. Any other place in the county would have asked for a bridge. Newberg asks help in maintaining a little ferry and is denied it.

There seems no alternative but to discontinue the ferry as the maintenance of it involves too heavy an expense to be borne by Newberg business men alone. In the meantime citizens nod their heads ominously and say, "There'll come a time," in a manner which bodes no good for those who have held up the improvement.

Oregon Editors in Session at Portland.

Those of the editors who laid aside the cares of the sanctum Friday and Saturday of last week and joined their fellow patriots in the metropolis, had every reason to be pleased with their short vacation. As was to be expected, with the Lewis and Clark Centennial in full swing, little attention was given to business and no programs were listened to. It was a case of see, be seen and have a good time generally.

Shortly after their arrival in Portland Friday morning the editors were privileged to witness at short range the successful flight made by Prof. Baldwin's airship, the City of Portland. The young aeronaut, Lincoln Beechey, took the air like a bird and for half an hour sailed his ship about at will over the exposition grounds, having it under absolute control. One might be excused for stopping and rubbing his eyes at the sight of the long anticipated and much discussed flying machine in actual flight at last. Beechey, the aeronaut, is a modest unassuming youth, who did not seem puffed up over the fact that he had just completed the most successful aerial trip ever made. He has been engaged at aerial navigation since he was thirteen years old.

On Friday afternoon the editors hit the trail, of which they were given the freedom. Led by one of the managers of the con-

cessions, the best of the shows were visited in a body—and it was a jolly party withal. No the least interesting show, and probably the most instructive, was that of the Igorrote village. These "strange and savage men" from the Philippines are proving a great attraction, being advertised largely through their reliance for dog meat and their rapacity for human heads. The old gray-headed chief, who is said to have fifteen heads to his credit, patriarchal in appearance and doesn't look at all the fiend or murderer. In fact the Igorrotes seem bright and playful rather than savage and are rather good looking in their "undress uniform." Head hunting is to them a playful little recreation not to be taken too seriously—except by the other fellow.

The Igorrote dance is unique and must be seen to be appreciated. Their chorus work is likewise distinctive and reminded one strongly of the nocturnal concerts given here last year by the Dagoes who were at work on the railroad. In a spear throwing contest the little brown men did not prove very efficient—our school boys could show them tricks with a little practice. If a stray Fido had shown up however, they might have exhibited greater skill.

Homer Davenport's farm was visited, and interest in the visit was heightened by the presence of the great and only Homer himself, who entertained and instructed his literary visitors with a running lecture on his Arab steeds and famous collection of pheasants.

Several other interesting concessions were visited. The infant incubators were duly inspected—rather with contempt by a few valley editors who have become fathers of large flocks without the aid of any such mechanical contrivance. Governor Geer did not hesitate to return from the trip to Venice along with many of his brother editors—down the slide on the seat of his pants. Trixie, the smart horse, made good with the boys by picking out one of the newspaper girls as the prettiest woman in the house. In the descent to the lower regions one of the lost spirits was asked if he was

the delinquent subscriber. "No" was the reply "I'm here for watching Tacoma grow."

In the evening the visiting editors were tendered an informal reception by the members of the Portland Commercial Club at their rooms in the Chamber of Commerce building.

"Seeing Portland" by trolley was the feature of Saturday forenoon, the visitors being taken a three hours ride over the city by the courtesy of the Consolidated Street Railway Company. The newspaper men were accompanied by genial Tom Richardson, head of the Development League work in Oregon, who did much to make their visit a pleasant one.

In the afternoon the members were in attendance at the fair, a pleasant feature being a reception in the California building to which the Oregon editors were invited. Delightful refreshments were served, our southern neighbors proving royal hosts.

At a meeting at the Oregon building it was decided to hold a business meeting of the association at Portland in December, at the call of the executive committee, when a program will be given. The next annual meeting will be held next August at Newport, by invitation.

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