

THE ITEMS

COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

SATURDAY JUNE 28, 1932.

The Washington Star notes that several daring scientists have ascended Pelee and looked down into the crater, discovering a molten mass. Its presence, the Star remarks, had already been suspected.

The Democratic party is said to always have its face to the front. Unfortunately for it, it never dares to look around or refer to any of its issues or speeches after they are a year or so old. It cannot contemplate its record.

It is evident, from Mr. Roosevelt's message on the subject of Cuban reciprocity that his attitude on this phase of the problem bears no direct relation to his sentiments regarding the general question of reciprocity, but is based solely on the exigencies arising from the peculiar relations between this country and Cuba, growing out of the Spanish-American war and the Platt amendment.

In calling attention to the other triumphs of the republican party it will be remembered that when it succeeded to office five years ago the finances of the country were in a perilous state and that now the credit of the country is the best in the world and that, in spite of the fact that we have carried on a foreign war, the national debt is actually less than it was when the republican regime began.

The report on the mule camp at New Orleans used by England to supply animals for service in South Africa has been made public, showing that \$18,000,000 worth of horses and mules were shipped from that port, about 175,000 animals being sent in no less than 166 voyages. The station was not used for recruiting men or operating in any way against the neutrality laws.

The capacity of a man like Malcolm Moody takes about two terms to reveal itself fully. His quiet, earnest methods do not dazzle at first, like those of the spread-eagle orator, but they wear better. Few Representatives will close the present session with so formidable an array of important things brought to pass. Every day adds to his achievement on behalf of his state. Not the least in his present undertaking in behalf of official visits of experts to Eastern Oregon's arid regions.—Orrgonian.

Our Washington correspondent says a bill was introduced in the Senate some time ago providing for the erection of a statue in Washington to the memory of John Paul Jones, but it appears to have been pigeon-holed in committee, after the manner of many bills. A statue was the other day unveiled in the park opposite the White House to attest the splendid services in the Revolution of Marshal Rochambeau and France. This was fitting; but surely it would be as much so to erect a monument, and the finest that art could produce, to John Paul Jones, the founder of the American Navy, the intrepid American who bearded the British lion in his den, landed an armed force upon English soil, and spread consternation along the English coast. The Americanism of John Paul Jones was such as to stir the patriotism in the heart of every lover of the Republic to which he gave his services.

LOSING FLESH
In summer can be prevented by taking
Scott's Emulsion
It is as beneficial in summer as in winter. If you are weak or run down, it will build you up.

"FORAGE PLANTS."

The first of a series of farmers' institutes to be held in Eastern Oregon under the auspices of the Oregon Agricultural College convened in Antelope last Saturday. Among the things discussed of great interest to farmers was that of "Forage Plants." The subject was opened by Dr. James Withycombe, of the Agricultural College. He spoke in part as follows:

"The sowing of suitable forage plants is paramount to all other problems relating to the agricultural interests of this section. Much of your soil is phenomenally rich, and when supplied with sufficient moisture vegetation becomes remarkably luxuriant. Irrigation, wherever practicable, satisfactorily solves the problem of crop production, but there are large areas of rich land the contour of which precludes successful systems of irrigation. Cultural methods, however, will materially assist in the transformation of these parched fields into luxuriant meadows. Thousands of acres of what is apparently nonproductive land at present can be made to produce remunerative crops of alfalfa by rational systems of cultivation. The method suggested is to sow alfalfa in drills from 18 inches to two feet apart, and cultivate during the growing season. The purpose of the cultivation is to conserve soil moisture. It requires approximately 400 pounds of water to produce one pound of dry matter in a plant. A precipitation of 12 inches, provided it is all utilized, will supply sufficient moisture to produce three tons of alfalfa hay to the acre. Thus it will be seen that the annual precipitation in this section, if properly conserved, is ample to insure profitable crops on these seemingly desert wastes.

"This is pre-eminently a stock-growing section, and if the natural resources are properly husbanded, it will continue to be so to the end of time. The regrassing of your ranges demands thoughtful consideration. Through injudicious pasturing for a series of years you have practically destroyed the bunchgrass, which is one of the most nutritious grasses known in the world. Probably no better grass for cattle and horses can be found for this section. It has evidently required the evolutionary work of centuries to develop it. An improvement upon its physical structure for withstanding drought can scarcely be conceived. Nature has so constructed its leaf that transpiration of moisture is reduced to the minimum. We would certainly advise the collecting of this seed and growing it under cultural conditions for the purpose of renewing the pastures. It can be grown and the crop harvested subsidiary to grain. Then by sowing in protected pastures it will only be the work of a short time when the pastoral aspect of this great inland Empire will be changed for the better."

One of the most important bills acted upon last week by Congress was the one amending the present bankrupt law. The bill as passed amends the present law in 15 particulars to meet defects which it is said experience has proved. The most important amendment is one to define preference. This was amended in accordance with the supreme court decision in the case of Pirie vs. the Chicago Title and Trust Company. Four additional grounds for refusing discharge in bankruptcy were also added—First, obtaining property on credit; second, making fraudulent transfer of property; third, having been granted or denied a discharge in bankruptcy within six years; and, fourth, having refused to obey the order of the court or refused to answer material questions approved by the court.

Speaking of the West Indian craters, the Detroit Tribune suggests that if the Soufrier crater is only half a mile deep, we will have to find some other burying place for the Democratic Philippine issue.

RURAL MAIL DELIVERY.

Now that the new mail contracts will soon be in effect, July 1st, and a new order from the department regarding rural delivery will be in vogue, it will be in order to give a brief account of the duties of mail carriers under the new law.

Any person who, living remote from town or country postoffice, who desires his mail deposited at a given point on the line of the route by the carrier on said route may provide and erect a suitable box or crane on the roadside, location in such a manner as to be reached as conveniently as practicable by the mail carrier without dismounting from the vehicle or horse, and such person shall file with the postmaster at the postoffice to which his mail is addressed a request in writing for the delivery of his mail to the carrier on the route for deposit at the designated point, at the risk of the addressee (the one who is addressed). The carrier on each route will also be required to hang small bags or satchels containing mail on cranes or posts that may be erected along the route, if preferred to boxes. The small bag or satchel must be provided by the person for whose use it is intended without expense to the Department. The intention of the new order is that the party receiving mail along the route shall receive same without cost, and that the party in turn provide his own box, or satchel, and crane, at his own expense.

It shall be the duty of the postmaster, upon a written order from any person living on or near the star route, to deliver to the proper mail carrier for that route any mail matter—placed in their respective satchels, where such are used, the mail for the persons to whom such satchels belong—with instructions as to the proper mail box or crane at which said mail matter shall be deposited, but registered mail shall not be so delivered unless expressly requested by the addressee in his written order. No mail matter so delivered by a carrier shall be carried past another postoffice on the route before being deposited into a mail box or hung on a crane or post.

The carrier on the star route will be required to receive from any postmaster on the route any mail matter or private mail satchel that may be entrusted to him, outside of the usual mail bag, and shall carry such mail matter to and deposit it into the proper mail box or hang it on the proper mail crane placed on the line of the route for this purpose; such service by the carrier to be without charge to the addressee.

The person providing either box or satchel should see that it is of such character as to afford ample protection to his mail. If there is a lock attached to the box, a key is not to be held by the carrier, as he is expected to deposit the mail without the necessity of unlocking the box.

The carrier is not required to collect mail from the boxes, but there is no objection to his doing so if it does not interfere with his making the schedule time. The law provides that every carrier of the mail shall receive any mail matter presented to him if properly prepaid by stamps, and deliver the same for mailing at the next postoffice at which he arrives, but that no fee shall be allowed him therefor.

A story is told on a doctor which is too good to keep. A certain citizen set out four shade trees for the doctor. Later the doctor was called to give medical assistance to the citizen's mother-in-law, who soon after died. The doctor presented his bill and the citizen paid it. After paying the bill the citizen happened to remember that the doctor owed him for the shade trees and presented his bill, explaining that he forgot to do so when he settled. The doctor looked at the bill and remarked: "But those shade trees died." "So did my mother-in-law" was the prompt reply. The doctor asked him to receipt the bill and checked further discussion.

The issue for which the Democrats are searching still continues "just round the corner."

SPECIAL SESSION.

Salem Sentinel: So far as the Sentinel is able to observe, the people, the members of the legislature and the press of the state are opposed to the calling of a special session of the legislature. The argument has been advanced that it is the old legislature that would be called together; but this is a mistake. A member of the legislature is in office from the very day of his election, so if there is a special session it will be composed of the newly elected legislature.

The reasons given for the special session are two in number, as follows: to make the initiative and referendum amendment operative, and to place state officers on a specific salary. A third reason is a futile endeavor to promote Geer's candidacy for U. S. senator.

As for the referendum, Oregon has managed to wobble along fifty and more years without it and no one will suffer through a delay of two or three weeks in putting it in operation.

As for flat salaries, all state officers are already on stated salaries and the regular session can curtail the unconstitutional grants and cut down the emoluments. It will require no special session to do this. The constitution already declares for flat salaries and whatever violations have been made have been made by the legislature directly in opposition to the specific provisions of the state constitution.

The President's message, and straight forward, unmistakably clears his position in regard to our duty to Cuba.

Persons who sleep with back fences under their windows will heartily approve the proposition to tax cats.

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