

Weekly Rogue River Courier.

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GRANTS PASS, ORE., FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 1911

WILL A NEW POLITICAL PARTY BE FORMED?

An interesting situation is presented in the lineup for the extra session of congress next month. Some well-posted politicians say it is altogether likely that startling surprises will occur and this on account of the breaking away from one or the other of the old parties. It is true that a great change has come over the country in recent months. Party loyalty no longer exists and the party boss has discovered that he is powerless to stay the tide of political reformation which has been sweeping the country. Great dissatisfaction is shown in the rank and file in both the republican and democratic parties. There is a tendency on the part of the progressive elements of both organizations to break the ties which have bound them and form a new alignment by uniting to serve the people. They are tired of being herded and made to do service under old party bosses. In the special session things are likely to take form in some new way which will effect the elections of 1912.

The progressive forces are in the majority in both houses, and the country will look upon it as a surrender to interests and as ground lost if the progressives permit the reactionaries to dictate the legislation at the special session.

The progressives dominate the senate, with Cummins, LaFollette and Borah, while the old guard will have to depend upon Penrose and Warren, on the republican side. On the democratic side are such progressives as Culberson, Williams and Stone, while Bailey upholds the honor of the old guard.

The house republican progressives will be led by Norris, Murdock and Madison, and the standstillers by Cannon, Payne, Dalzell and Mann.

The majority party in the house will try to hold itself intact, but there are so many progressive democrats in the membership who have been elected to succeed stand-pat republicans that they will doubtless be found working in harmony with their kind on the other side and against the old order of their own party.

BUILD UP OUR FARMING INTERESTS.

The importance of building up our agricultural interests here in the Rogue River valley must be apparent to every man who thinks.

The foundation of the highest class of citizenship in any country lies in the land-owning farmers. They are the stable and conservative factors in our form of government. They are the balance wheel of the business world and their success means national prosperity; their failure spells disaster to all.

High values for land and high prices for products are not the most important things in agricultural progress. They show better things for the farmers and progress can not be attained without them, but the real foundation of permanent agricultural prosperity must rest in the intelligence of the farmers.

High prices may relieve financial stringency, but they alone can not make a permanently successful agriculture. Enlightened economical production is the only thing that can do this, and this question is the most important one confronting the American farmer today. High prices are to be desired when conditions warrant, but they can not be depended upon and a low cost of production is the means offered the farmer for continued prosperity.

THAT ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COMMERCIAL CLUB.

The annual election of the Grants Pass Commercial club held Monday evening was in every way satisfactory to those interested in the organization. For the most part the old officers were re-elected, so this leaves men of experience at the helm and we can expect the club to go forward along the lines of exploitation of the resources of Josephine county without the board being obliged to wait to become acquainted with conditions. The annual gathering was without exception the largest of any meeting of the kind the Commercial club has ever held, there being 220 members present.

The club has a great work before it which should be undertaken without delay. The reports received from railway sources indicate that Oregon will receive this year more colonists than it has been favored with in any year in the past, but it is said that a very large majority of these are going to the central part of the state because that section has been advertised more extensively. It is unfortunate for Josephine county that our advertising was not in the field at an earlier date, and that more of it was not done. It is possible, however, for the Commercial club to do some effective work at this time, and it is pleasant to announce that a strong effort along these lines will be made. There is one very important thing that must be done to insure the club's going forward with the

great work it has in hand and that is the membership must be increased and everybody must continue to be loyal to the organization. The good work that has been accomplished during the past year by the Commercial club should encourage every member to keep his shoulder to the wheel and those who are not members to come forward and do their part.

GRANTS PASS DOUBLE ITS POPULATION WITH- IN ONE YEAR.

Those who are anxious to secure the prosperity of Grants Pass should bear in mind that every resident of the city has a duty to perform if the end desired is to be secured. There must be a oneness of purpose on the part of every citizen and we must not forget to drop all personalities and work in harmony in the great cause we have in hand. The "knocker" must be turned from his evil ways; the doubting Thomases must be labored with and every good work must be encouraged. There are some men so constituted that it is hard for them to believe that prosperity will ever be within their reach. They are pessimistic by nature—the good Lord never smiled on them.

If there are any persons in this city who do not have faith in the future of Grants Pass let them get up early some morning and walk over the town and see the new houses in course of construction, counting these carefully as they go along. When they return to their homes they will find that the list amounts to nearly a hundred beautiful residences and nine out of ten of these have been built by their owners, who will occupy them as soon as completed. Next let them look over the business blocks and see the numerous fine structures which have gone up within the last few months and then read about the new three-story hotel, ground for which will be broken this week. After this they may take a walk down and see the starting of the Grants Pass and Rogue River railroad, and while examining the track, which is already laid to the river, let them ask Engineer in Chief Gardner how many miles of road will be built this season and, if he says "thirty miles" and that the iron for the entire distance has been ordered and will be shipped before the first of August, it will be time to do a little thinking and become convinced that Grants Pass is making progress along safe and strong lines. The doubtful man should bear in mind that the livest kind of people are here, and they are determined to double the population of Grants Pass within the next twelve months.

LET US BUILD GOOD ROADS NOW.

Attorney General Crawford says that counties can issue bonds to build roads without waiting for further legislation. At the last election the people, by a majority of 18,000, amended the constitution of the state so as to permit counties to issue bonds for road purposes. The amendment reads as follows:

"Section 10, article XI—No county shall create any debts or liabilities which shall singly or in the aggregate exceed the sum of \$5000, except to suppress insurrection or repel invasion, or to build permanent roads within the county, but debts for permanent roads shall be incurred only on approval of a majority of those voting on the question."

A number of the best lawyers in the state have had this subject under consideration and they agree with General Crawford and can see no reason why the counties can not issue bonds and construct roads this season. We understand that the Supreme Court will be asked to pass upon this subject with as little delay as possible. The law was made to serve the people without asking the legislature to even pass an enabling act. Such a procedure would be all well enough, but there is no reason in the world why we should go on paying out large sums annually for maid roads when we have the authority to build those that are permanent. We can cover the county with good roads and the interest on the bonds will not be more than we are now paying out for temporary road construction. The people of the state have decided by a large majority that Josephine county shall have the right to build such roads as they need and a way has been provided to do it so that future settlers can assist in paying the bonds. It is quite unfair for sparsely settled counties to pay the entire cost of permanent road construction for future generations. If the supreme court will act promptly in this matter it will be serving the best interests for the people of the state.

DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

The holding of district fairs is perhaps one of the most valuable assets of any community. The Rogue River District Fair will be held this year at Medford. This will give our sister city an opportunity to demonstrate that Jackson county can produce such fruits, grains, stock and poultry as was exhibited at Grants Pass last fall, when people from the east had occasion to behold with amazement the wonderful products of Josephine county. We hope Jackson county will be able to duplicate the exhibit of one of our farmers who displayed 125 different varieties of fruit and farm products from his own ranch.

Notice is hereby and now served that Josephine county with all its products will be at the fair and assist in making a display creditable to the district. Our fruitmen, stockmen, farmers and miners will be on hand to see and be seen. The Grants Pass Commercial club and the Ladies' Auxiliary and everybody in this neck of woods will endeavor to again carry off a majority of the blue ribbons in this annual and important contest.

IRRIGATION MASS MEETING

For the purpose of discussing fully the organization of an irrigation district in Josephine county, a mass meeting of all land owners in the Hugo, Three Pines, and Merlin communities is called to meet at Merlin next Saturday afternoon, March 18, at 2 o'clock. Speakers will present different sides of the subject, and all questions will be answered fully.

(Signed):
JOSEPHINE COUNTY IRRIGATION AND POWER COMPANY.
By H. L. Gilkey President
J. G. Riggs, Secretary.

UNPRECEDENTED NUMBER OF COLONISTS COMING TO WEST

PORTLAND, Mar. 16.—An unprecedented number of colonists are pouring into Portland daily from practically every state east of the Rockies. It was estimated today that fully 2000 homeseekers reached Portland yesterday and last night and railroad officials say that more than 2500 are due by midnight tonight.

While there are a few coming west with a view of returning to the east, the great majority are looking for homes in Oregon, Washington or Idaho.

EXPLORER MAY HAVE BEEN MURDERED

WASHINGTON, Mar. 16.—The state department was requested today to investigate a report that Herbert Decou, African explorer, had been murdered recently on the north coast of Africa by Arabs.

BANKER WALSH TO BE PARDONED IN SIX MONTHS

WASHINGTON, Mar. 16.—Banker John R. Walsh, who is serving a five-year sentence in the Leavenworth prison for having juggled the funds of a Chicago national bank, of which he was president, will be pardoned in six months, according to a report current today at the department of justice. It was also rumored that Charles W. Morse would be pardoned after he had served two and a half years more of his sentence in the Atlanta federal prison.

IN LOS ANGELES ROOSEVELT WILL BE A BUSY MAN

LOS ANGELES, Mar. 15.—The stay of Colonel Roosevelt in Los Angeles will be a busy one, according to the program mapped out by the committee on arrangements made public today. He is scheduled to arrive here at 10 a. m. March 21. He will deliver speeches at the depot, at the Y. M. C. A., the Temple auditorium and the Hotel Maryland and Auditorium in Pasadena the first day.

March 22 Roosevelt will make several other addresses but the principal event on the program will be his speech at the City club, where he will be presented by Governor Johnson.

WOLGAST IN SHAPE FOR FIGHT

LOS ANGELES, Mar. 16.—Although he has trained but five days for his fight here tomorrow with George Memsic, Lightweight Champion Ad Wolgast today announced that he was fit and would only do light work to keep his wind in shape. Wolgast weighed 128 pounds when he rolled out of his blankets and he and his manager, Tom Jones, agreed that instead of taking off more weight a rest was in order.

Memsic also is in good condition, it is said. The betting is now 10 to 6, with Wolgast favorite.

YOUR MONEY BACK

IF YOU BUY A

SOUTH BEND CHILLED PLOW

AND DO NOT LIKE IT



Can You Get a Stronger Guarantee on a Plow?

The South Bend Chilled Plow has more clearance under the beam, longer and more curl to the mould-board and more drop to the handles than other chilled plows.

These are the principal reasons why the South Bend runs easier, turns the soil better, is easier to handle and gives such perfect satisfaction.

Last year we sold several dozen South Bend Chilled Plows under this same Guarantee and did not have a single plow come back on us.

1BX cuts 9 inches, sells for \$7.50 with extra share.

2X cuts 10 inches, sells for \$9.00 with extra share.

3X cuts 11 inches, sells for \$10.50 with extra share.

4X cuts 12 inches, sells for \$11.50 with extra share.

15X cuts 14 inches, sells for \$12.50 with extra share.

We also carry the best and cheapest line of steel plows on the market, which we sell on the same guarantee.

If you will go to the trouble to look at other makes of plows first and then compare ours, we know what your decision will be.

Let us Show You

Rogue River Hardware Co.

THE BIG RED FRONT
SIXTH STREET, GRANTS PASS