

Weekly Rogue River Courier.

An Independent News Paper Established in 1887. Published every Friday
Entered at the post office at Grants Pass, Oregon, for transmission
through the mails as second-class matter.

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Subscription Rates.

Weekly—By mail—Per year, \$1.50; six months, 75 cents; four months,
50 cents; single copies, 5 cents.
Daily—Delivered by carrier or through the mails—Per year, \$5; six
months, \$3; one month, 50 cents; single copies, 5 cents.

GRANTS PASS, ORE., FRIDAY, APRIL 21 1911

DANGER IN LIMESTONE WELLS

There appears to be a great desire on the part of a number of our citizens to use well water for drinking and domestic purposes and quite a number have gone to the trouble and expense of digging such wells so as to avoid using river water. A little investigation will prove that in Grants Pass during recent years there has been typhoid where well water has been used altogether. The United States geological survey report for this month has a valuable paper on the subject and it should be read by thoughtful people everywhere. Mr. Matson, the writer of the article in question, takes up the matter of the pollution of underground water in limestone. In substance he says that the water which supplies wells in limestone regions usually makes its way along enlarged joints in the rock, which may in some places be extensive caverns. The enlargement is due to the solution of the limestone by water containing carbonic acid. In many of these underground channels, where the surface covering is a thin mantle of more or less porous material, the dangers of pollution, which may result in typhoid and other diseases, are very great, and there is practically no opportunity for natural purification. The danger is increased by the fact that persons using underground water are apt to rely on its general appearance and temperature as indications of purity. It is generally considered that water which is clear and cold is pure, but no such conclusion is warranted, for some of the most dangerously polluted waters are free from sediment and deliciously cold.

FISHING, BOATING AND BATHING

Fishing and boating are now in order on Rogue river for all lovers of these sports. It is pleasing to note that these recreations are becoming more popular in Grants Pass each recurring season. This is the one city in the Rogue River valley which has opportunities for bathing, boating and fishing and we owe it to ourselves to make these advantages known far and wide. They will prove a drawing card to many thousands of people. There is no more healthful exercise than rowing, and nothing takes the place of angling for those who love that kind of sport. Bathing, in many cities, is becoming more popular every year, and in some places where opportunities are not as good as they are here. Our citizens should learn to value what we have in this line, for it is one of the greatest assets of Grants Pass.

PROSPERITY IN THE BUILDING LINE

It is a noticeable fact that Grants Pass has at the present time what amounts to a considerable army doing construction work on fully a hundred buildings, great and small; and the best part of it is that these houses, stores and factories are all needed for present use. There are a considerable number of other buildings needed, such as rooming houses and small up-to-date cottages. If someone will construct anywhere from twenty-five to fifty four- or five-roomed residences and furnish them, tenants can be found for them as fast as they are completed, and such buildings will be a paying investment.

RICH VALLEYS TO BE DEVELOPED

There may be many persons who do not fully appreciate the importance of the railroad which is now building up the Applegate and Williams valleys. To these let it be said that the sections mentioned are rich in undeveloped resources. President Bowen and his associates investigated these and this determined them in building the road they now have under construction. There are many millions of feet of the finest timber in Oregon growing within reaching distance of this railroad, which offers opportunity to bring this much needed commercial article to market. The valleys mentioned have other rich and important resources in the building line which are to command the attention of the people of the entire state. What is needed in every town of this state is material for the construction of modern buildings and such supplies will find a ready market. The two valleys through which the Grants Pass and Rogue River railroad will run are furnished with the richest contributions for the use of man, and the road in question will make them available to the industrial world.

The frost of last week caused no little anxiety among the orchardists in this section, but after the scare it has been found there was little real damage done. Some of the pears and peaches were injured, but, fortunately, it is said, the effect of the frost only amounted to properly thinning the fruit, as the blossoms promised an over abundant yield. In this instance nature was kind in having given us enough and to spare. May we always be as fortunate in our dealings with the frost king.

THE WEST HAS A KICK COMING

Once more the solid south is running things in the house of representatives and there is blood on the moon, for western democrats refuse to submit to Dixie dictation. Of the fifteen important committees of the house the west has in all only eighteen members. No man from beyond the Mississippi is a member of the appropriation committee, judiciary committee or the committees on foreign affairs, naval affairs, postoffice or insular affairs. Western people are highly indignant over this treatment and trouble may be looked for.

The west has great interests affected by the legislation referred to in all these committees. A special from Washington reports that on seven other big committees the west has but a single member each.

There is no westerner on the committee on ways and means, which is to report the Canadian reciprocity bill and all tariff measures. This committee is to originate these bills, the most important of all legislation to be considered at the special session, and California alone is represented, of all the states beyond the Mississippi Valley. Likewise, the west has only one member each on the committee of rivers and harbors, military affairs, public buildings and grounds, banking and currency, territories and immigration.

This is a bad send off for the democratic majority and the result may be far reaching, in view of the presidential election next year.

THE PACE IS CERTAINLY VERY FAST

Grants Pass is proud of its long cavalcade of automobiles which daily dash up and down Sixth street, but there are some good people who shake their heads and really fear that there will be a tragedy enacted at some of the crossings. They will tell you every day that it is time to slow up some of these joy riders and the council is expected to do it. Fortunately only one person, so far, has been injured and this was a lad who admits that it was his own fault, as he attempted to dash across the street just ahead of the oncoming auto. Let that one case be a warning not only to those driving the cars but pedestrians who carelessly place themselves in danger. Some one has suggested to The Courier that it would be a good plan to publish an extract from the state law regarding the rights of all parties, and this may be done in the near future.

SAID TO BE A POLITICAL ALLIANCE

The correspondent of The Oregonian at Salem claims to have discovered a political alliance between Governor West and his newly-appointed secretary of state, Ben W. Olcott. This writer says that Olcott has agreed to get himself nominated as the republican candidate for governor and West will, of course, be nominated by the democrats. Well, that is all right. Such an unholy alliance would be its own cure. Mr. West doesn't own the democratic party any more than Mr. Olcott does the republican and neither of them is as big as he imagines he is. West has already damned himself with the people of the state and Olcott is sufficiently damned by being appointed secretary by West.

STREET PAVING BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Some very important matters will come before the city council tonight, and among other things, the subject of paving certain streets. There seems to be a difference of opinion as to the material that shall be used on residence streets and there will be an effort to get together tonight and adopt that kind which will best serve the property owners, who are to pay for it. There is plenty of room to make a mistake in choosing material to be used for this work. What will serve in one country is often totally unfit in another. The winter rains in Grants Pass are severe and not all kinds of paving will stand during the wet season. Owners will find it necessary to take up this subject and investigate it from all standpoints. Paving of streets is expensive and it is quite natural that owners of property will be anxious to reduce the price to the very lowest point, but this can be overdone by getting an article which will neither stand the climate or the test of daily traffic. As mentioned before, this matter is for the property owners to decide, and yet all citizens are interested in putting such material on our streets as will stand the test of use and look well.

If President Taft does not get the big head after being introduced by Mrs. Matthew P. Scott, president of the Daughters of the Revolution, as "the greatest ruler of the greatest nation in the world," he can be elected president in 1912. The question is, did Mrs. Scott intend to make fun of the president by her seemingly laudatory remarks or was she honest and really thinks Mr. Taft the greatest president the United States has ever had? We will all concede that ours is the greatest government on earth, but when you set Mr. Taft up as greater than Washington, Lincoln, Grant and a few others, you are going some.

Poor Lorimer! His associates in the United States senate tried to give him a clean bill of honesty, but it didn't work. It is now found that there was a \$100,000 slush fund especially raised to secure his election and this newly discovered evidence will bring his case before the senate again. His friends in Illinois are having, it is claimed, a red hot time, with a good chance of having their favorite sent home in disgrace.

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guaranteed equal in
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THE "KNOX" HAT

They are always better than the other
stores' best—that's why they are here with
us.

SPRING SHIRTS

ALLEGED SCABBY CATTLE BARRED FROM FOREST

PORTLAND, April 20.—Fearing that thousands of cattle in Lake and other southern Oregon counties might become infected by the scab and that the DesChutes national forest would become a source of infection, the United States government today secured an injunction from United States Judge Wolverton restraining the Chewaucan Land and Cattle company from turning 4000 cattle loose on the forest reserve. The government alleged that a large per cent of the cattle in the ban were infected with scab.

MOTORMAN INHERITS \$70,000 BUT CONTINUES WORK

REDONDO, Cal., April 20.—Although Motorman Edward McGuire, of the Pacific Electric company, was notified yesterday that he had fallen heir to \$70,000, the news of his fortune did not prevent him from appearing for work today. He took out his regular run at 5:15 a. m. McGuire's fortune comes from his father's estate, which consists of tracts of coal and timber lands in Arkansas, Mississippi, Kentucky and Virginia.

FOR SALE

256 ACRE RANCH

Located within one-fourth mile of Selma postoffice in Illinois Valley, 22 miles southwest from Grants Pass in the coming future fruit section of Southern Oregon.

All bottom land.

75 acres cultivated.

20 acres of choice young orchard.

Newtowns and Spitzenbergs.

240 rods rabbit wire fence around orchard.

3 3/4 miles new post, rail and board fence.

First right to 100 miners' inches of water from Clear Creek, ditches dug.

25 acres in alfalfa, clover and wheat.

Fine garden, house, barns, outbuildings, small fruits, 4 horses, 2 cows, 4 hogs, complete outfit wagons, farming tools, small tools.

The Grants Pass and Western R. R. survey goes by the place. Selma depot located about 15 rods from house.

Title perfect, no incumbrance.

This will make one of the finest fruit farms in Josephine county.

Purchase price \$16,000, terms on part if desired.

Farm can be divided to advantage.

Possession given on sale.

It will pay you to look into this before purchasing elsewhere.

Inquire on premises of

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