

Weekly Rogue River Courier

A. E. VOORHIES, Pub. and Prop. C. G. COUTANT, Editor.

Entered in the U. S. Post Office at Grants Pass, Oregon, as second class mail matter.

FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 1912.

THE FIGHT ON THE COURIER.

Certain disappointed persons with nothing better to do are devoting their time to the circulation of a report that the Rogue River Courier is about to pass into the hands of a receiver. This report is being passed along by representatives of the "rule or ruin" people who at the present time have nothing else to do. To be sure, they have injured the business of The Courier inasmuch as at least one of their sympathizers has discontinued advertising and five of their friends have asked that their name be dropped from the subscription list, but even this does not cripple the resources of the paper, which at present furnishes the largest pay roll of any single industry in the city. Many times during the past this same class has organized boycotts against the paper but still it survives and is today the one indication of a live town, and this fact is apparent to every visitor within our gates.

I might add that only this week I have again turned down whiskey advertising from two different sources, and this has been my policy during the years I have published The Courier. Right here let me say that I have been paying The Courier bills for 15 years and I expect to continue to do so as long as I remain at the head of the paper. The Courier is one of the half dozen concerns of this city now doing business here under the same management since 1897. Don't bother about knocking The Courier, you have other troubles which may keep you busy.

A. E. VOORHIES.

DEMAND ENFORCEMENT OF CONTRACT.

A landowner, whose property is above the proposed gravity ditch, sends us the following communication which should command the earnest attention of every person in this vicinity interested in securing water for irrigation purposes. This gentleman writes in a sane, practical manner and while he urges action he is undoubtedly willing to listen to reason. The Chicago-Rogue River company can serve our correspondent as well as the people generally by indicating their intentions in regard to the contract which they have entered into with the landowners of this valley and which will soon expire. They will readily see that something must be done as the people owning the land and who control the contract are unwilling to wait longer on those who have so far failed in the performance of the obligations they entered into.

Our correspondent seems to understand the general conditions and The Courier has no hesitation in saying that he represents public sentiment in and around Grants Pass. Below is the letter:

March 11, 1912.

Editor Courier, Through the good offices of your valued paper we desire to discuss the irrigation problem.

Spring is here and no physical evidence visible giving promise of the new ditches and extensions outlined in our contract with the Chicago-Rogue River company last year.

We are supposed to have made a valid, binding and enforceable contract with that company, and also binding the water users to take water as well, and any digression from this course by either party to the contract would seem to invite further litigation. The extent of the immense loss attending same will be easily foreseen.

Nevertheless, if we have a binding contract with the Chicago-Rogue River Co. it can be seen there should be some wise action taken looking to the development of our interests, and not allow our undisputed contract to lapse, and outlive this ripe opportunity.

It is a painful fact well within the

memory of all who so liberally contributed to the cause of irrigation, that strong assurances were given that there would be no doubt of an early and prompt fulfillment of the contract entered into with the Chicago-Rogue River company; relying upon these assurances many of our business men again extended almost unlimited credit to the new company, and they could ill afford the sacrifice.

This brings us to the question, or proposition, have we not by the foregoing contract acquired an inseparable interest in, and to, our present irrigation system? One embodying an integral interest in the entire system, including the all important water rights of Rogue river for our lands, by which we are entitled, morally and legally, to the physical possession for use and development, in the event of the further and ultimate default of the Chicago-Rogue River company? It must be admitted that the power plant is situated in the proper place for serving the greatest area of land at the minimum cost to the producer and consumer.

It has a large gravity factor for delivering water in abundance to our rich porous bottom lands, which will require two or more net acre feet of water delivered on the field.

It has the only feasible topographical location enabling all lands up to the 350 foot level to be served without reducing the power to electricity, involving enormous loss of power, and raising the cost service in much larger proportion than at first thought would indicate. Involving the extra cost of transmission lines, transformers, individual pumps and reservoirs, pipe lines to and from the same from the river to reservoir, and then from reservoir to convenient points of use, all of these bills must be met by the consumer sooner or later, and to this must be added the cost of ditches and their upkeep. In fact the lower the cost of the plant the lower the cost of service will be, and the greater the promise of good service when once installed.

There is another factor not to be lightly considered, and that is, the necessity for an absolute unit of action with the purpose in view of having the entire valley served under one system.

If we segregate the bottom lands from high lands it will make it practically impossible for any plant to serve the high lines at any reasonable rate, thus leaving them without water for all time.

If we have a good contract let us enforce it at once and have water in time for this year's crop. With the same outlay incident to the installation of private lines, ditches and equipment we can all be served, and at a less cost than any other way. This is a matter of too great importance to let us sit idly by and let our valuable water rights and irrigation privileges be frittered away, and if we stand together as one man we can have a valley that is all that can be wished for in fruit, grain and hay.

Let us get an expression from the company and get at some working basis, and it surely must be productive of timely benefit.

LAND OWNER UNDER HIGHLINE.

A CHANCE TO HELP GRANTS PASS.

Grants Pass has an opportunity to get a large amount of advertising in connection with the most important event of the twentieth century, the Panama-Pacific International Exposition, which is getting a page write-up in the "International Fair Illustrated," a publication which will at once be the most popular journal before the people. This story of our beautiful city and country is to be handsomely illustrated and will at the same time be by long odds the most attractive showing ever made of this locality. This splendid, artistic and typographical effort is promised us without money and without price if we will secure 400 subscribers to the publication mentioned. Every family in Josephine county needs this journal which will tell by the finest illustrations ever printed and the handsomest type and presswork known in the art preservative, the story of the real opportunities we have to offer the investor and the homeseeker. The representative of the International Fair Illustrated, C. S. Hamilton, is in the city and is making business calls on those who should subscribe to this

leading work of art in the journalistic line and it is to be hoped that he will get the full 400 subscribers and that we will be able to make a handsome showing for the city in this work which represents the finishing and opening of the Panama canal as well as the progress of the greatest of all expositions, The Panama-Pacific International Fair, which will open in San Francisco in 1915.

SCOTT HAS CHAMPION.

There are people who think that the Jackson county farmer and inaugurator of the already famous plan of raising money for good roads purposes has discovered something which will bring general prosperity not only to our neighboring county but every other county in Oregon. The Courier is willing to have the subject debated for the purpose of bringing out all the best points in the Scott bonding plan. While the weight of evidence which has appeared in the newspapers seems to be against this particular financial scheme, we have no disposition to shut off debate and therefore publish the following letter which has been received from a member of a rather prominent business concern in Tacoma:

Editor Rogue River Courier: Thanks are due W. G. Scott, farmer, for bringing into prominence a question of vital interest to all the people. Will those who are ridiculing his proposition please turn to United States statutes at large for the years 1907 to 1909 and on page 446, chapter 229, read: "To render available as a basis of additional circulation any securities including commercial paper?" If this is good for the bankers, why might it not be good for the people? Why do we make and uphold this distinction in favor of a special line of business to which we are all compelled to pay tribute?

If such dire results, as some of Mr. Scott's critics predict, would follow an action of this kind, how can we hope to escape the same results when the same methods are used by the banks?

Mr. Scott has evidently been doing some thinking. Isn't it time for the rest of us to do some?

Yours very truly, THADDEUS HILL.

A NEEDED INDUSTRY.

It is pleasing to note that the Mail-Tribune of Medford approves of the poultry and egg business which has taken such firm hold of Grants Pass. Under the above head that Journal published the following editorial on last Tuesday:

There is no reason why the poultry industry should not be one of the great assets of the Rogue river valley.

Climatic conditions are more favorable than even in Petaluma. Two great markets, Portland on the north, San Francisco on the south, will take all that can be produced.

The Commercial club reports that at least a score of persons have embarked in the poultry business around Medford in the past few months. There are half as many inquiries regarding poultry as there are about orchards.

The fact that both the Wells Fargo express and the Southern Pacific are considering reduced rates and special accommodations promises well for the future of the industry. A great business can be built up with proper encouragement.

Poultry does not require the capital that horticulture does. It does not entail the risks of loss. It means no long period of waiting until returns come in. It merely requires industry. Its returns, while not as large, perhaps, as from fruitraising, are surer.

QUIT KNOCKING.

During the past ten days certain persons have been industriously cir-



Copyright, Hart Schaffner & Marx

YOUR'E GOING TO CARE

how you look this spring as much as you ever cared; and if we have a hand in your buying of clothes you are going to look better than you ever looked, that's sure.

Hart Schaffner & Marx New Fabrics, New Colors, New Models,

clothes will do it; the new styles for spring are ready; they're the smartest, liveliest lot of styles you ever saw.

Suits \$18 up. Other suits \$10 up

This Store is the Home of Hart, Schaffner & Marx

GEO. S. CALHOUN CO.

culating reports that prominent merchants of the city are in financial straits and have even gone so far as to name a date on which a receiver will be appointed to take over their business. No merchant or class of merchants is exempt from these malicious attacks. Investigation shows that these rumors are unfounded and in some instances, they have been traced to people who are owing the individual merchants and have been asked to liquidate their accounts. In other cases they are directly traceable to either business or personal enemies of these merchants. Grants Pass has a few knockers and slanderers who are far from being a credit to the town. A representative of R. G. Dunn and company has been in this city for several days and he reports that financial conditions are as sound in Grants Pass as elsewhere on the Pacific coast. Business all over the country is not as good as it should be, but the Pacific coast, this gentleman says, is far better financially than the eastern cities. The Courier cares naught for the criticism of these vilifiers when it is confined to this newspaper but there is no mercantile firm but is affected by attacks of this nature. They injure the town and all its interests and it is high time that contemplated measures are taken to bring these vilifiers to justice.

W. B. Sherman returned this morning from a two days' business visit to Salem.

USE ALLEN'S FOOT-EASE

The antiseptic powder to be shaken into the shoes. If you want rest and comfort for tired, tender, aching, swollen, sweating feet, use Allen's Foot-Ease. Relieves corns and bunions of all pain and prevents blisters, sore and callous spots. Just the thing for Dancing Parties, Patent Leather Shoes, and for Breaking in New Shoes. Try it to-day. Sold everywhere, 25 cts. Don't accept any substitute. For FREE trial package, address, Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y.

HE JUMPED.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 14.—Just as he had his hand on \$3,000 worth of jewelry, the telephone rang and scared a burglar so he jumped through the second story window.

OLCOTT ACTING GOVERNOR.

SALEM, March 14.—When Governor West crossed the state line with the Oregon delegation enroute to San Francisco to select the site for the Oregon building at the Panama Pacific exposition, Secretary of State Olcott became acting governor. He will not relinquish the reins for about ten days.

PACIFIC COAST U. S. PLAYGROUND SOUGHT.

A meeting to launch a movement that will make the Pacific coast states the "Playground of America," will be held in San Francisco April 2. Representatives of the Portland Rose Festival, the Seattle Potlatch, The Tacoma Montamara Feste, the Spokane National Apple Show, the Vancouver (B. C.) International Horse Show, the Pendleton Round-up, the Salem Cherry Fair and of all the regular annual celebrations held in California cities will be in attendance.

The call was sent out by the management of the Rose Festival and it has met with an enthusiastic response. No definite plan of action has been offered, but co-operation is to be the keynote. Each city will be asked to carry on its advertising a dateline calling attention to attractions of the other cities represented in the organization and to work together in securing national conventions and other important gatherings. It is believed that the possibilities for good in such a union are limitless.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—Preparations have been completed to send the Fourth Infantry, now stationed in Kansas, and all available cavalry to the Mexican border to prevent violations of the neutrality law, and intercept any shipments of arms and ammunition into Mexico.

MARRIES STEPSISTER.

PALM BEACH, Fla., March 14.—Roy Esworth Pierce, son of Henry Clay Pierce, oil magnate of New York, today has as a bride his stepsister, Miss Virginia Burrows. The two eloped from here and were married at West Palm Beach. The elder Pierce raised strong objections when he learned the couple were married.

TELEPHONE RATE WAR.

SPOKANE, March 14.—A long distance telephone rate war between Spokane and Seattle is expected as a result of the rate shipping campaign inaugurated by the Postal Telegraph company. The Postal allows a five minute conversation between the two cities for \$1. The Bell concern charges the same sum for one minute. The local superintendent of the Bell company said that no effort would be made to meet the Postal rate.

AVIATOR FALLS.

SAN DIEGO, March 14.—Lieutenant Theodore S. Ellyson, U. S. N., a student at the Glenn Curtiss aviation camp here, had a narrow escape from death today when his aeroplane at a height of fifty feet, was caught in a puff of wind and dashed to the ground.

+ RULES COMMITTEE
+ TO VISIT LAWRENCE.
+ WASHINGTON, March 14.—
+ Planning a probe of the entire
+ textile industry, the house rules
+ committee today is considering a
+ trip to Lawrence, Mass., for
+ further investigation of the
+ treatment by police of women
+ and children there and other
+ matters in connection with the
+ textile workers' strike. "Set-
+ tlement of the strike won't end
+ the investigation," said Con-
+ gressman Wilson, chairman of
+ the house labor committee. "It
+ will merely change its line."
