

Weekly Rogue River Courier COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER.

A. E. Voorhies, Proprietor

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1913.

LEGISLATING FOR THE TEACHER.

The legislatures of Oregon and Washington have each had before them during the past week bills legislating for the teachers of the public schools. In Washington it was a measure to pension those who had given their life service to the training of the embryo citizen, while in this state the law advocated was to put the teachers of one section, Multnomah county, under practical civil service regulations.

There is much of wisdom in the pension proposal. Those men and women who give the energy and the best of their active years to the cause of education are worthy of all the commonwealth has to offer. The teaching profession is so poorly paid as a general rule that few teachers are able to save from their meagre stipend. Many teachers leave the ranks because there is opportunity for greater financial gain in other callings, and the cause suffers from the loss. If there is the assurance of aid from a proper source as part of the reward for a life's services, the teaching ranks would not be deserted by those who are needed in the school room. This pension would not come in the sense of a charity, but as part of the return for a public service rendered.

On the other hand, to put the teacher under a life tenure of office, as our own legislature proposes, must work to the ill of the educational system. Merit, and ability to cope with local conditions and to work results, should alone be the test of tenure, and the local board of directors is the best judge of when a teacher should be retained or dropped from the roll. Individual effort is often killed when one feels secure in position, and a teacher's self respect must suffer when he feels that it is a regulation of law rather than personal merit that holds his place.

CEMENT FOR PAVING.

Concrete for paving is the latest call. It costs more, but those communities that have used it know that it is worth more. Its wearing capacity has been demonstrated, and for hard service its superiority over other of the common forms of pavement has been proven. The city council seems inclined to try some of the cement pavement in Grants Pass, and when the acceptance of bids for the Fourth street crossing contract was under consideration, the sentiment seemed pretty unanimous for the calling of alternative bids. This crossing would have been a most excellent place for a severe test, as traffic there will be especially heavy.

With the building of the railroad to the Applegate, and the making available of the deposits of cement rock there, Grants Pass should be in a position to put in cement pavement at a most reasonable figure. The hoodoo of freight rate upon the cement will have been downed.

A BILL, WITHOUT MERIT.

The so-called compromise measure proposed by the committee on fisheries of the legislature is of no value whatever to the people of the upper river. An open river for but thirty days would be of no benefit, and it is the opinion of every one in Grants Pass that the bill carrying that provision should meet defeat. It gives a practical monopoly to the corporation at the mouth of the river, and it would be utterly impos-

sible to ever get a more reasonable measure enacted. Through the defeat of the whole subject at this time, it will be possible at some later time to get a bill through that will be more reasonable in its treatment of the people of Josephine county.

A thirty day period for commercial fishing is not sufficient to warrant the fishermen in equipping themselves for the work. With the variation in the time of running of the salmon the open period here might find the river without a run of fish that would justify the fishermen in working the stream, and the day the limited period was over the river might swarm with them to the advantage of none but the monopoly at the mouth of the Rogue. The fishermen can not afford to put several hundreds of dollars into boats and nets, and leave their other avocations, for the chance on a thirty-day season. For these reasons the people along the upper river ask that no bill be passed unless they are given the same rights as the corporation at the mouth. The proposed law benefits none but the cannery people, and strikes at the rights of the hundreds whose claim upon the bounty of the stream is just as great individually as the claim of the million dollar company. Should this unfair bill pass the legislature, Governor West should promptly veto it.

SALARIES OF COUNTY OFFICIALS.

Laws for the regulation of the salaries of county officials in this state are in a most unsatisfactory condition. When a servant of a county thinks he is underpaid he rushes to the legislature and attempts the enactment of a new law affecting his case only. The system is all wrong. Under it skillful manipulation, or the presence of friendly legislators, some county officials get all and more than the work of the office justifies, while others of the meeker disposition go on giving their services for more honor than cash.

The proposal of the governor to divide the counties into classes is the only fair method of arriving at an equitable salary basis. Population and the taxable valuation of the county should be the means by which class is determined, the area of the county having small effect on the work of the officers except in those matters that should be provided for through the allowance of mileage.

The number of deputies and their compensation should be entirely under the control of the county court, or of the board of county commissioners if the management of counties is given to such a board as has been proposed.

The placing of the salary question upon an automatic basis is the fair way, and removes it as completely as possible from the influence of political manipulation. The readjustments necessary with the growth and changing class of counties can be determined by the tax commission with absolute fairness.

WELCOME THE MAZAMAS.

Recent communications to the Commercial club from the Mazama organization announces that the trip to the Oregon Marble caves of Josephine county will take place about May 30th. President E. P. Sheldon of the Mazamas writes that great interest is being aroused over the excursion, and it is expected that the number participating in the annual event will be a record breaker.

The Mazama officers have already entered upon a campaign of education about the caves, and every bit of information concerning the great natural wonder is devoured by the mountain climbing organization. On an evening next week the club members in Portland to the number of from two to three hundred will listen to an address on the Marble caves by Rodney Gleason, with stereoscopic illustrations made by Geo. W. Weister, the photographer, who was here last summer, and who made

official photographs of the interior chambers of the caves a number of years ago. Both of these gentlemen are members of the Mazamas, and will probably make the trip with their club again this summer. The lecture will be in the Eastside public library.

The coming of these people, whose membership is composed of the most wideawake citizens of the northwest, is the best opportunity that has ever come to Josephine county to make known its charms to the world. They will see not alone the wonders of the cave, but not one bit of the beauty of the natural setting of the valley of the Rogue, or of the commercial and industrial possibilities of the district will escape attention. The path which they blaze will be followed by countless thousands, and of those thousands many will return to locate in this mountain empire.

May 30th is not far distant, and every organization in the city should now make plans for the extending of a royal welcome to the Mazama tribe.

GOVERNOR WEST'S ULTIMATUM.

Governor West has sent a message to the legislature declaring that he will not approve any appropriation bills unless absolutely necessary to the affairs of the state until the legislature makes some disposition of the general appropriation bills for state institutions. The governor bluntly charged the chairman of the house senate ways and means committee with playing politics and delaying consideration of these bills.

There are now appropriation bills approximating \$9,000,000 in the committees and only nine working days left.

PROGRESSIVES ON THE BALLOT.

Not only will the progressive party get a position on the ballot in the next primary election, but the bill giving it a place on the official ballot will carry an emergency clause to permit the new party to nominate a candidate for mayor at the city primaries in Portland next May.

This is the plan, at least, to which the judiciary committee of the senate is pledged. The bill was introduced by request of the progressive party committee and was necessitated by the failure of the bull moosers to pull 25 per cent of the vote of the state for congress.

INTERVENTION IN MEXICO.

The news reports from the Mexican capital indicate that the Madero government has failed, and that even though the federal troops should succeed in beating back the rebels under the younger Diaz in the battle now raging, that peace can not come to Mexico. The rebels have taken on fresh courage, and are confident of final success. The demand for American intervention is pressing from many sources, but the government is right in going slow in interfering in the scrap. So long as the battles are fought along the lines of modern warfare, it is Mexico's game. Those Americans who get in the way of stray bullets were fully aware of the unsettled state of conditions when they entered Mexico, and have only themselves to blame for being there. The destruction of property and the loss of life are but the fortunes of war.

It will be time for the United States to intervene when the clashing Mexican forces fail to recognize the rights of the persons and the property of those of our citizens who have gone to the territory of the belligerent nation. The fact that a few Americans have trespassed upon the battleground of the two armies and have been punctured by stray bullets is not reason for intervention. It need not be surprising, however, if in the heat of the present conflict things are done by the excitable Mexicans that will require the notice of the United States.

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WAGES OF WORKING WOMEN.

If the senate does not insist upon the inclusion of a wage-publicity clause in the women's eight-hour law, for the District of Columbia, when the LaFollette-Peters bill is passed, it will not be the fault of Senator Jones of Washington. He told the committee on the District of Columbia, which had hearings on the measure, that "the most damnable part of this whole problem is the wages they receive made public. We may come later to pass a law regulating the amount that shall be paid."

He would have the bill amended so as to provide that the rate should be set down opposite the number of hours worked, the latter information being required by the LaFollette bill to be posted in each place of employment, in the case of each employe. Jones believes that the fact of the miserably low wages paid in many stores and other business enterprises will be so offensive to the public conscience as to force a humane adjustment.

TURTLE SERUM AND SKEPTICS.

The reports that come from Berlin concerning the erratic actions of Dr. Friedmann do not add to the peace of mind of a world that prays for confirmation of his reputed tuberculosis cure. But it must be remembered in this connection that genius is often coupled with an erratic nature, and that the most of the great discoveries of the medical science has been scouted and have found the people unbelieving and skeptical.

The Friedmann turtle serum, if it does all that its discoverer claims, is no more wonderful than other discoveries that have now been accepted as matters of fact, and while hope should not mount too high, there is nevertheless ground for even more than hope. The turning of the discovery over to the German nation for the fullest test will bring an unbiased verdict as to the merits of the "cure."

In the last fifty years great progress has been made in medicine. Diseases that then were deadly, and whose coming was in the nature of a pestilence, have been conquered, or at least controlled, till they have lost their dread. Smallpox and diphtheria and cholera have lost much of their horror during that time by "discoveries" that are fully as wonderful as the Friedmann cure. Considered in this light there will be nothing especially remarkable in a complete victory of the turtle serum over the white plague.

LAWS GET THE AXE.

Wielding a heavy broad axe, the state senate has disposed of a large number of bills that came before it

crippled and wounded by adverse committee reports.

One of the hardest fights came on Senator Neuner's bill repealing the Coos Bay wagon road land grant. This was based upon the recommendation of Governor West in his annual message, who became convinced on the investigation and advice of prominent attorneys, that the state is the proper authority to bring suit to restore 90,000 acres in the Coos Bay grant to the public domain.

Among the other measures killed was one providing the legislature may alter or amend the charters of corporations hereafter incorporated and another proposing a constitutional amendment to bring a compulsory compensation act within the constitution.

A bill intended to carry instruction in modern farming methods to the farmers of the state has passed the senate. This work is to be done under the direction of the Oregon Agricultural college. Instruction is to be given by teachers from that institution in all parts of the state to give practical application on the farms of the knowledge gained by scientific demonstration.

It is too bad that a discordant note should now come into the story of the heroic Captain Scott expedition. It is better, however, that all the truth be told, and let whatever of blame there is attach to the right members of the party.

State of Ohio, city of Toledo, Lucas county, ss.

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, county and state aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE.

FRANK J. CHENEY.
Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886.

A. W. GLEASON,
Notary Public.

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Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

STEAMER RUDDERLESS, DRIFTS IN MID-OCEAN.

NEW YORK, Feb. 14.—Her rudder gone, and buffeted far out of her course by storms, the British freight steamer Crown Point is practically a derelict in mid-ocean, according to Captain Mace of the steamer Chicago, which is here today.

Captain Mace declares he offered to take off the crew of the Crown Point, as he could not give the vessel a tow because of the high seas and his low coal supply. He says the offer was declined.

For a sprain you will find Chamberlain's Liniment excellent. It allays the pain, removes the soreness, and soon restores the parts to a healthy condition. 25 and 50 cent bottles for sale by all druggists.

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT.

Notice is hereby given to all persons concerned, that the undersigned joint administrators of the estate of Benjamin Dimmick, deceased, have filed their final account of the administration of said estate in the county court for Josephine county, state of Oregon, and that the hearing of said account has been set by said court for Saturday the 15th day of March, at 10 o'clock a. m., at the county court room in the court house at Grants Pass, Oregon, and all persons interested are notified to file their objection thereto, if any there be, on or before said date.

Said notice is published in the Rogue River Courier a weekly paper published at Grants Pass, Oregon, by order of Stephen Jewell, county judge, made the 13th day of February, 1913.

EDWARD E. DIMMICK,
VIRGIL L. DIMMICK,
Joint Administrators of the Estate of Benjamin Dimmick, Deceased.

NOTICE OF BOUNDARY BOARD MEETING.

Notice is hereby given that the District Boundary Board will meet at 1:15 p. m. Wednesday, March 5th, 1913, to act on a petition to change the boundary line between school districts Nos. 23 and 35 so that the E 1/2 of NE 1/4 of section 22, and the NW 1/4 of section 23 of township 35, south of range 6 west shall be taken from district No. 23 and become a part of district 35.

Done this 13th day of February, 1913.

LINCOLN SAVAGE,
County Superintendent.

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