

GRANTS PASS AND THE ROGUE RIVER VALLEY AS SEEN BY ADDISON BENNETT

The following article concerning Grants Pass and the Rogue River valley was written by Addison Bennett, special writer for the Portland Oregonian, and published in the Daily Oregonian October 26:

The Grants Pass people aver that their town is in the Rogue River valley, and they can prove it by showing the Rogue in all its beauty as it passes under the bridge across the principal business street of the city. Or is it a town? At what size or what age does a town become a city? Surely the mere incorporation of a number of people under the municipal act does not constitute a city. And it seems to take something more than people to make a real city. However, under any circumstances Grants Pass is a city and not a mere town. Its population is somewhere around 5,000—many of the citizens say more than that, up as high as 6,000.

It is the county seat of Josephine county, the name coming, it is said, from Josephine Leland, the first white child born within the limits of the county. The name of the town is legendary, the name of General U. S. Grant being linked with all of the stories, but these are not so well verified as the name of the county. No two of them exactly agree.

Streets Not Pole Marred

In more ways than one it is a magnificent city, but what strikes one most forcibly is the absence of telephone and telegraph poles and wires, not one being visible in the place. Upon inquiry I discovered that when the city decided to pave the streets three or four years ago they first put in a splendid sewer system and then placed all of the wires in conduits underground, then had every pole removed. The result has been that not a single square foot of pavement or sidewalk has been torn up since pavement and walks were laid. Other municipalities might ponder over those conditions with profit, even cities of the size of Portland.

The main business thoroughfare, called Sixth street, is one of the finest streets in all Oregon. Looking up it from the Rogue River bridge towards the hills it seems to run directly into the hill, which is a mile away. The elevation at the end is 27 feet above the bridge, giving a fine fall for sewage. This street is wide, perfectly paved, the buildings along it are very fine and well kept, the parks and railway grounds are a pleasure to the eye—it is a magnificent street. At night it is lighted up by a myriad of bunch lights.

Speaking of the parks and depot grounds reminds me that on all the Southern Pacific line in Oregon there is no finer depot, no finer grounds, than here. There are four small parks adjacent to the depot, on railway property, and these parks are cared for largely by the ladies of the city, the Ladies' Auxiliary taking charge of them. There is also a fine city park on the banks of the Rogue, just across the bridge. This is another beauty spot, although it is new and has not reached the state of perfection that the ladies will undoubtedly see it gets.

Valley of Valleys Surround

Grants Pass is 33 miles north of Medford, 297 miles south of Portland, 474 miles north of San Francisco. It is, as stated, surely in the Rogue River valley, which valley is augmented hereabouts by the following contiguous valleys: Fruitdale, Applegate, Williams Creek, Jones Creek, Illinois, Sucker Creek, Elk Creek, Jump-Off-Joe and State Creek. Some of these valleys are rather small, some of them large. One of them, the Illinois valley, is said to contain 13,000 acres of agricultural land. It will be remembered that the Illinois river flows into the Rogue river at Agness, about 30 miles east of Gold Beach. I think I have told some little of this valley heretofore in The Oregonian for I heard much about it on my trip a year ago through Curry county and up the Rogue.

It is one of the most remote places in the United States, that is from the beaten highways. Indeed you can find in southwestern Josephine and eastern Curry about the last of the really virgin spots in the country. But this last-to-be-annexed land is rich in mineral and agricultural resources, also it has immense coal deposits nearby. The copper fields of Josephine and Curry will some day startle the world. As one man put it to me today: "The Butte copper mines cover two square miles of ground; the Josephine-Curry copper belt covers 300 square miles, much

There is copper enough in those mines to supply the world with copper for centuries to come."

Taking it for granted that this man's prejudiced, although he is said to be one of the copper mine experts of the country, and that he has exaggerated a one hundredfold, a thousandfold, there is surely lying here within easy access of Grants Pass wealth beyond the dreams of man.

Ore Assay is High

A year ago, through the Wedderburn-Gold Beach Commercial Club, I had shipped from Mr. Cooley's place at Agness a slab of copper "ore" weighing 67 pounds that was over 95 per cent pure copper. The reader

tion now had not the San Francisco earthquake occurred when it did, for a San Francisco capitalist had acquired all of the right-of-way, had done a little grading and had a full equipment of tools and machinery on the Southern Pacific siding at Grants Pass when the great quake came to startle the world and wreck hundreds and thousands of fortunes, this railroad promoter among them.

He quit. Later he died and from his heirs the Grants Pass people bought everything pertaining to the road—all surveys, drawings, right-of-way—for about \$30,000, and they now have about nine miles of as good grading done west of Grants Pass as has of late years been built in the west. The Grants Pass people do not expect to build all of this 91 miles of road right off the bat. What they do hope to do is to go far enough to get the Southern Pacific or some other corporation or capitalist to see

but I expect to go back next month and see more, and tell the readers of The Oregonian more.

There are three banks in Grants Pass. The Josephine County Bank has a capital and surplus of \$53,000 and deposits of \$104,000. Its president is T. B. Cornell, cashier, Sam H. Baker. The Grants Pass Banking & Trust Company has a capital and surplus of \$61,000 and deposits of \$212,000. Its president is Claus Schmidt, cashier Marshall Hooper. The First National has a capital and surplus of \$101,000 and deposits of \$475,000. Its president is L. B. Hall, cashier H. L. Gilkey.

Seventy-five per cent. of the Grants Pass families own and live in their own homes. There are no "pluto-crats" in the town, neither are there any beggars—the people are universally prosperous, orderly and progressive.

TAMMANY IS ROUTED— FUSION CANDIDATES WIN

New York, Nov. 5.—"Boss" Murphy of Tammany has been "recalled." The voters did it. Even the "boss" closest friends admitted today that that was what yesterday's landslide at the polls meant.

It was a sad day for Tammany. Deprived practically of the last bit of his patronage, the tiger faces the leanest four years in his life.

Nobody could possibly be sorer than the "organization's" managers were today. They blamed Murphy. The "boss" gave it out again today that he would not abdicate. It was clear, however, that this would not be necessary. He was as good as deposed already. His lieutenants made it amply clear that they would never forgive what they called his "fat-headedness."

New York democrats were looking generally to Washington today for some hint as to the choice of a new leader. It was expected that President Wilson would give one in the form of a selection of a successor to John Purroy Mitchel as collector of the port.

He would appoint a man, it was assumed, who could command the support of all the democratic factions and, through tremendous patronage of his office, reorganize the party locally on a more progressive basis.

The new collector cannot afford to become the titular head of Tammany, but he can work with Murphy's successor if the latter is the right sort of an individual.

Dudley Field Malone, Senator O'Gorman's son-in-law, was considered the likeliest candidate for the collectorship.

Tammany's defeat was absolutely crushing. The fusion forces carried every borough. They swept the strongholds of such Tammany chieftains as Murphy, Sullivan and McManus, who never before knew anything but victory in their own particular districts. Even Julius Harburger, who has spent his life on Tammany's payroll, was defeated for coroner.

John Purroy Mitchel, the fusion nominee for mayor, was elected over Judge Edward E. McCall, Tammany's choice, by a majority of 115,628. The rest of the fusionists' city ticket won by somewhat smaller, but still very heavy majorities, with the sole exception of the nominees for president of the Queensborough council, to which M. E. Connolly, Tammanyite, was elected.

Up-state returns showed that the republicans elected \$1, the democrats 55, and the progressives 14 members of the next lower house.

Republicans were chosen to fill the two vacancies among the judges of the court of appeals.

The fusionists swept New York county, as they did the city, electing their entire ticket, including District Attorney Whitman to succeed himself, and Max Griffenhagen for sheriff.

Up-state New York towns which went democratic on mayoralty and the bulk of the rest of their municipal tickets, included Buffalo, Utica, Rome and Troy.

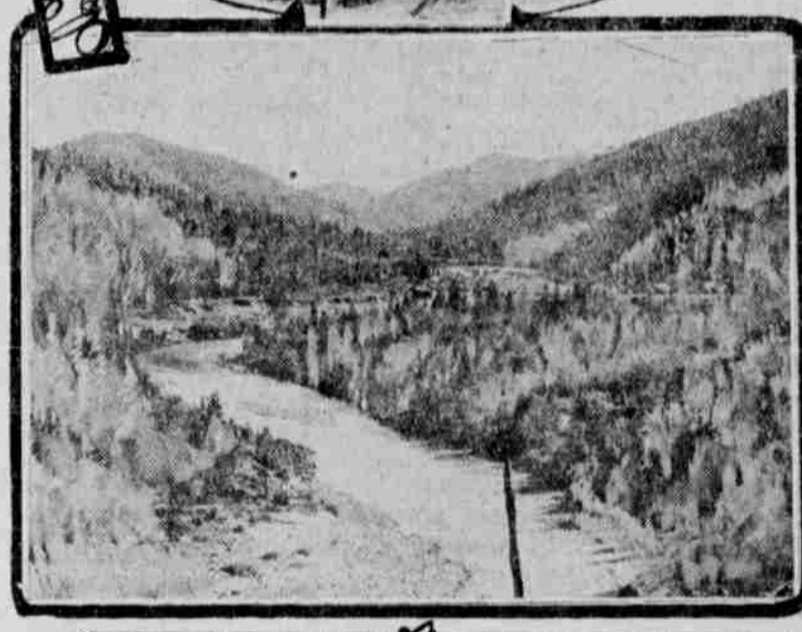
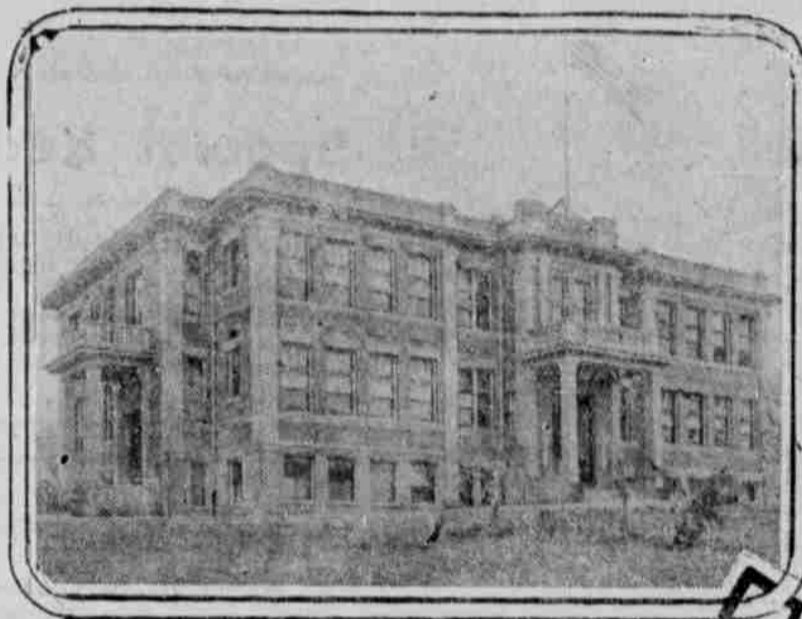
Poughkeepsie, Rochester, Auburn, Albany, Binghamton, Amsterdam and Watertown went republican.

In Elmira the fusionists won: Johnstown elected progressives, and in Schenectady J. Teller Schoolcraft, running on a citizens' ticket, was elected mayor.

New Jersey Democratic

Latest returns from New Jersey indicated that James Fielder, the democratic nominee supported by President Woodrow Wilson, would have a plurality for governor of 18,000 over Edward C. Stokes, republican, and Everett Colby, progressive.

Fielder's vote ran slightly behind what Wilson received a year ago. Colby, it was evident, would not prove to have polled more than a total of 40,000, as compared with Roosevelt's



TOP—HIGH SCHOOL. CENTER—SIXTH STREET NORTH. BOTTOM—ON THE ILLINOIS RIVER

of it richer than the Butte district. need not take my word for this—the slab is on exhibition at the rooms of the Board of Trade in Portland, in the Commercial Club building.

The Illinois valley has some of the finest agricultural land in the west. It is surrounded by one of the finest belts of timber in the civilized world. It has a climate as fine for agricultural pursuits as can be found in the state. It is cut up, intersected and criss-crossed by streams and dotted over with springs. For the husbandman who wishes to go into diversified farming, for the dairyman or the livestock grower it is an ideal spot—it will one day be one of the most thickly populated pastoral valleys in Oregon, and one of the most prosperous.

Why all of this in a letter from Grants Pass? Because the Illinois valley is tributary to Grants Pass—because the Grants Pass people feeling, knowing this are now building a standard railway from Grants Pass to Crescent City, a distance of 91 miles, which will pass through the Illinois, the Applegate and many other valleys. Please note that I do not say they "will" do this—they are doing it. Under a law passed at the last session of our legislature cities were given the power to build railways, so the city of Grants Pass voted \$200,000 to start this road. The citizens of Crescent City added their mite. The big timber firms came through and donated ten miles of a standard built logging road running out of their city, then other lumbermen stepped in and subscribed \$450,000 more to be paid when the road is put in operation.

This road would likely be in opera-

the possibilities of such a road and carry it on to completion.

People's Mettle Shown

It requires no great prescience to see what such a road would do for Grants Pass. With this road opened every town in Oregon save Portland would have to look sharp to keep abreast with this little Rogue River valley city. There is no doubt about that. But the work going forward has shown the mettle of the people, their temperament, for the question was carried by a vote of 1132 to 62. I tell you it is impossible for a community standing together like that to fail.

Josephine county will have 27 miles of the Pacific Highway to look after, but they are not worrying as the stretch of that road through the county is now one of the best roads in the state. And there are 375 miles besides about as good as that. This is a county of natural road material. All they do is to plow up the ground, round it up enough to give the road a crown, put a ditch on each side and then a slight dressing of gravel, and they have a road that will last for years, without dust in the summer or mud in the winter. There is one road leading west from the town over which large traction engines haul great loads of lumber every day. These engines, it seems, ought to tear a well-laid pavement all to pieces—but the Josephine road is as nice as the best part of Broadway in Portland. And I was driven over many miles of other roads just as good. I want to tell you the Grants Pass people kept this child pretty busy while I was a "citizen" of their town. They showed me lots and told me lots—

HOUSEKEEPERS Must be Watchful

For great efforts are being made in this vicinity to sell baking powders of inferior class, made from alum acids and lime phosphates, both undesirable to those who require high-grade cream of tartar baking powder to make clean and healthful food.

The official Government tests have shown Royal Baking Powder to be a pure, healthful, grape cream of tartar baking powder, of highest strength, and care should be taken to prevent the substitution of any other brand in its place.

Royal Baking Powder costs only a fair price per pound, and is cheaper and better at its price than any other baking powder in the world.

145,000 when he ran for president. New Jersey elected a democratic legislature.

Wah Governor of Massachusetts Reports from Boston placed the plurality of David I. Walsh, democrat, at about 50,000 for the Massachusetts governorship.

Charles Sumner Bird, progressive, was in second place; August P. Gardner, republican, was third, and Governor Foss, running independent, to

succeed himself, was far at the bottom.

Henry C. Stuart went in as governor of Virginia unopposed.

Boss Murphy Comes Up Smiling "Boss" Murphy of Tammany was smiling when he received a delegation of reporters today.

"Let me tell you this," he said, "Tammany is not destroyed. We will come back stronger than ever. Some people may worry, but not we."



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