

BEAVERTON TIMES

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To take what is held out to you is never out of place, and the most diligent of the mob known as cranks will not criticise such procedure. The east end of Washington county has started something, though perhaps it took but a little to start it, lets keep it going.

We have been granted the right to a new road into Portland. We of the east end should feel flattered that a portion of the county so small, as the Judge would express it, is looked upon with so much favor. To continue the good work, an item in the county budget allows the sum of \$10,000 to build this road.

It has been said that this sum will cover it with a species of hard surface which the county has been laying for Hillsboro and Forest Grove. No doubt it will if some one has not made a mistake in the matter and underestimated the size of a ten thousand wad.

The idea, however, is this; next Saturday is budget day at the courthouse and as things are lined up there are some portions of the county out to defeat our share of it Lets get together and go up to Hillsboro with the express idea of carrying the thing through. We need the cash for a road. One good act may lead to another and place us on the list for more another year.

At any rate if the money is offered us lets go and take it no matter how we feel about the new highway.

The Beaverton Times reduced its size last week to half of its former size, giving as the reason the increase cost of paper and the lack of financial support in the way of advertising, which is the life blood of any country weekly. The Beaverton people should appreciate the efforts of their local paper and give it every support they can. A small town showing bank deposits of over \$100,000 in their bank and doesn't give support to its home paper, shows there is something wrong somewhere. From outward appearance Beaverton makes a good impression.—Banks Herald.

Rubbing It In.

Bob—Perhaps we had better forget one another? Bess—Oh, I couldn't do that. I have so few things to laugh about!—Puck.

FREAK TREES.

Heavy Snowstorms Often Cause Bent and Twisted Trunks.

To the person who is not versed in forest lore the grotesquely bent tree trunks that are to be found in almost all woods is a mystifying and wonder is often aroused as to the cause.

Foresters will tell questioners that in the case of trees in mountainous country and other sections where the snowfall is heavy the weight of snow is responsible in most instances for the queer twists they assume.

When a tree is young the weight of snow that falls on its branches often bends the trunk over until it is flattened to the ground. Sometimes it is buried under six or eight feet of snow and held in that position so long that when warm weather comes the tree fails to spring back into its normal position.

The summer sun causes the tip of the young tree to turn upward, and if it manages to withstand the weight of the snow of the next winter that portion of the tree will, as a general rule, continue to grow in a normal way. "Hairpin" bends and other odd shapes result.

A curious tree stands on the top of Tunnel hill, Johnstown, Pa., about four miles from town. It is a sugar maple about 100 years old, which has prolonged its own life by grafting a branch into a much younger tree.—Popular Science Monthly.

VAMPIRE BATS OF PERU.

These Bloodsucking Animals Have Bulldog Heads.

On the morning after our arrival at San Miguel bridge (Peru) the pack mules nearly all showed blood blotches on their withers and backs, where they had been attacked during the night by vampire bats which had fed on their blood. This bat, *Desmodus rotundus*, is plentifully distributed throughout Peru in altitudes below 10,000 feet.

It is one of the most highly specialized species of existing bats. The lower jaw is decidedly undershot, and the head, with its short cropped ears and broad muzzle, has a strikingly bulldog appearance. The legs are well developed and rather heavy, enabling the animal to move fairly rapidly on the ground, in which situation it is by no means the shuffling, helpless creature like many other bats. If molested when thrown to the ground it will turn and bite savagely.

The teeth are a highly modified cutting apparatus for making incisions in the skins of mammals and birds.

In habits they are sociable and are commonly found living in caves or tunnels, suspended from the ceiling in clusters often of immense size.—National Geographic Magazine.

Alder Dye.

For the purpose of making dyes the common alder appears to have been unnoticed by the pioneers of this country, who made use of so many barks and roots. However, it was well known to the Indians, who used it to good effect. It dyes a reddish color, and down to a few years ago was employed by natives of the northwest Pacific coast in coloring their fish nets. Alder dye, used for the same purpose, is said to be the oldest recorded dye in the world. It is mentioned in the Kalevala of Finland, supposed to date nearly 3,000 years ago.

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