

WEEKLY COAST MAIL

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WEEKLY

Issued Every Saturday. Terms: In Advance, \$1.50 a Year, \$1.00 Six Months.

THE ASSESSORSHIP

When assessor of Curry county, E. S. Dean gave the books and the assessment of that county a straightening up of which they had long been in need. He equalized the glaring inequalities of valuation of which the people had been justly complaining, and he made a record of which he may well be proud.

How would it do to give him an opportunity to exercise, as assessor for Coos county, the qualities which have proved of value to our neighbors.

There is certainly a chance for improvement in this county, an improvement which we are not likely to get under the present regime which has been in power for quite a number of years.

It is an undeniable fact that large tracts of Coos county land are held by "absentee landlords," who are doing nothing to develop the country but on the contrary are holding it back by refusing to sell their holdings or let any one else make any use of them.

Yet they are allowed to escape their just share of taxation and their lands are assessed at a merely nominal figure. Land is assessed for them at \$12.5 which in the hands of any resident of Coos county would be assessed from \$2.50 an acre up.

There is a glaring instance of this suicidal injustice over by the Coos Bay Creamery. Land on one side of the slough owned by residents, who are helping to build up the country, is assessed at \$20 an acre. Precisely similar land on the opposite side of the slough, owned by a non-resident corporation, which is doing nothing for the country, is assessed at \$6 an acre. It could not be bought for \$60 an acre. Is there a farmer in Coos county whose land is assessed at less than one-tenth of its value?

This inequality in favor of the speculator and against the citizen, extends all over the county. How do you like it? Would you like to see a change, and have the speculators and non-residents pay their just share of the burden of taxation? Do you think the Democratic candidate is likely to give you relief? He will follow the precedent set by a line of Democratic predecessors, and let the Eastern wet-blankets off easy, while the citizens make up the deficit.

The Republican candidate for assessor showed what could be done in such cases when he raised the valuation of certain land in Curry county from \$1.25 to \$2.50 per acre, against the protest of the county judge, who told him that he couldn't do it.

He did do it, and the small taxpayers of Curry have enjoyed the consequent lifting of their burden ever since. Elect him assessor of Coos county and he will do the same kind of good work here.

LOCAL PROHIBITION

It is to be expected that those who believe in prohibition will vote for the proposed local option law, but why any one else should vote for it is hard to understand.

If the law means anything at all, it means prohibition,—local in its application but prohibition, nevertheless.

We are told by friends of the proposed measure that it will simply give the people of each community the right to say whether liquor shall be sold there or not. Very well; if the law be not invoked then it will be a dead letter for the community which decides against it. If it be invoked, then it will be prohibition, pure and simple for that community. And the more experience a man has had with prohibition the less faith he has in it.

As a matter of fact, Oregon has local option law enough now to prevent the granting of a liquor license in any community where the sentiment is strong enough against it. And some Oregon towns, notably Woodburn, in Marion county for one, have given the no license system a thorough trial and abandoned it for good.

It doesn't fill the bill, and if the proposed local option law should be passed, which is not at all likely, the same experience would be had with it.

THE DIFFERENCE

As the Democrats are making a special fight on John S. Coke, and repeatedly make disparaging comparisons between him and his opponent, A. J. Sherwood, the MAIL may be pardoned for adding something to what was said in these columns some days ago to show that in the matter of ability Mr. Coke is at least the equal of Mr. Sherwood, as the former has attained a standing in Coos county legal circles fully as high as that of the latter—and has not been half as many years doing it.

Coos Bay has reason to realize that John S. Coke is one of the most public spirited of her citizens. While he does not make a grand flourish to arrest attention to every act, he has quietly done some very effective work for the bay in the few years last past. For some time before the late re-organization of the Coos Bay Chamber of Commerce, that body consisted practically of Mr. Coke and Jas. H. Flanagan, and those two gentlemen freely spent their time and effort and no small sum of money in postage, telegraph tolls etc., in pushing the matter of appropriations for the jetty improvements and for dredging in the bay.

In fact, for a number of years these gentlemen acted as the Coos Bay Chamber of Commerce, and bore the entire burden of the work that should have been done by a more extended organization. The fact that Mr. Flanagan is a Democrat in no wise detracts from the honor due him, and Mr. Coke's Republicanism should not lessen the appreciation felt by the community.

Mr. Coke has been identified with all such movements and has exemplified his public spirit and his willingness to devote his time and effort for the benefit of his community. This is a personal characteristic which is a strong point among his qualifications for the office of joint senator.

Now, among Mr. Sherwood's good qualities it does not appear that public spirit shines resplendent. If he has been identified with movements for the public good where he was not directly interested, the fact has not been brought out by his friends, and the MAIL is informed that he has never shown any strong indications of being built that way.

The contrast should be born in mind insisting up the fitness of the two men for the office to which they aspire.

ONLY TWO NAILED

In answer to numerous inquiries and suggestions we will say that we are too busy just now to enter into a nasty newspaper fight. Besides we want just now to husband our powers of denunciation to "maliciously and malignantly malign" the gentlemen who have the temerity to differ with us in politics.

After election—well, maybe.

However, we will say this in regard to a statement that has been published to the effect that the "COAST MAIL has less than 400 subscribers." This statement is either true or false. If false, that settles it. If true, how did the parties making it come by their information? Those who know the circumstances can properly size up the business honor involved in the publication of that statement, whether true or false.

For the information of our friends, we will say that the quoted statement is false.

We will add, by way of parenthesis, that the COAST MAIL has several times as many real subscribers in Marshfield as any other one paper.

Send Binger Hermann back to Congress, and Coos county's interests will be looked out for as no one else has ever looked out for them.

Vote for John S. Coke and Coos county will be represented in the upper house of the Oregon legislature by one of her ablest and cleanest young men.

Elect Schiller B. Hermann, and Coos will have no reason to tremble for the consequences.

Send Storey Pierce to Salem as joint representative, and Coos and Curry will be honored in their choice of a level headed man of character and force.

Elect E. O. Potter as circuit judge, and the bench will be occupied not only by an able jurist, and a man of stainless integrity, but by a gentleman also who will not lose his head in the high altitude.

Elect E. S. Dean and get an equitable assessment once, for a change.

Place the entire Republican county ticket in office, and you will always be glad that you did it.

LOCAL OPTION

Editor MAIL:—
The Mail May 21st published an editorial on local option that does not coincide with the writer's views. The editor is mistaken when he says "neither local nor state prohibition has been demonstrated a success".

The writer lived in Kansas a good many years and during that time the prohibitory amendment was added to the state constitution. The state of Kansas has demonstrated that state prohibition is a success.

Before the amendment all cities, towns and villages had open saloons. Children of all sizes and ages could buy intoxicants although it was contrary to license laws. After the amendment and laws that followed the traffic was driven into a "blind pig" and "barred cellar". More of the men that grew up after the amendment were sober men.

You may hear that the Kansas law is not enforced. What we hear is more what some desire than what is true. Traveling men and salesmen will have what drink they desire. It

is the youth with their undeveloped habits that ought to be protected.

It is such a pleasure to a person who does not drink to go into a hotel and not hear the clink of glasses at a bar. That is what may be experienced in most hotels in Kansas.

It is an open secret that license law is not enforced unless the laws are made to please liquor dealers.

Nebraska has a local option law. One has only to visit the different towns to see the difference in the aspect of those that have passed prohibitory laws and those that have not.

Local option is not local prohibition. It simply makes local prohibition a possibility. A reasoning person sees no objection to the saloon being excluded if the majority so decide. We ought always be willing to abide by the decision of the majority. All ought to think well on the subject.

Allegheny, Or. X

The above brings out the points the MAIL has made—that prohibition does not prohibit. It closes the "open saloon", and substitutes the "blind pig" and the "barred cellar," to say nothing of the drug store, where "signed prescriptions" are kept ready for the insertion of the thirsty caller. And where, think you, is the law against selling intoxicating liquors to minors the more likely to be violated—in the saloon open to the inspection of the public and the police, or in the barred cellar where the police and the unsympathetic may not penetrate?

True, "A reasoning person sees no objection to the saloon being excluded if the majority so decide," but laws now on the statute books cover all that, and can be invoked with only a fraction of the trouble and expense involved in the enforcement of the proposed law measure. If all think well of the subject, nothing else is needed to defeat the project.

HAS NOT 100 PER CENT—HAS MORE ERRORS THAN CORRECT DECISIONS.

The Democratic papers of this judicial district are making a big effort to deceive the people into believing that Judge Hamilton has a record of 100 per cent in affirmed cases before the Supreme court. As a matter of fact, of the 26 cases appealed from his decisions only 12 have been affirmed. In the remaining 14, his judgments were found wrong. This is not a record to be proud of and doesn't argue very strongly for his re-election. The reports of the Supreme court show for themselves that he has made more errors than correct decisions in appealed cases.

He did get 100 per cent on volume 39 of the reports, but that volume had only one case from his court. This statement has been perverted and presented to the people with the manifest intention to deceive. Look up the reports for yourself.

GOOD SHOT!

For sheriff, Taylor Siglin will carry the banner of victory as he did fourteen years ago to the same position.—Bulletin

Correct as to his landing the plum fourteen years ago, but Mr. Siglin has twice since carried the banner in a different direction and planted it up Salt River. This will be his third feat in that direction.—The Sun.

POLITICAL ARENA

HE WILL CONTINUE

(Oregonian)

Binger Hermann should have the largest majority ever counted for a Congressional or State office in this district. He has ever proved himself a capable Congressman, and able

worker for Oregon, during the years he has been in Congress. He is well recognized in Washington as a man who wants something and knows how to get it for his state. To satisfy oneself, if any one can possibly harbor a doubt in the matter, it is easy to learn from the general and special appropriation bills of those Congresses wherein he has been a member. His services in the Congressional session just closed have also been of such value to Oregon as to overcome absolutely the idea that he has passed his day of usefulness in Washington. Mr. Hermann has ably represented Oregon in the past, is just as ably and satisfactorily representing Oregon today, and will continue to represent Oregon in Congress for the next term.

EASY TO VOTE

(Oregonian)

No one need despair of voting because he was unable to register. All that is necessary is to produce at the polls the acknowledged certificate of six freeholders that the applicant is a qualified elector. Every legal voter who is not registered should make full calculation to avail himself of this privilege. In the cities this matter will take care of itself. But in the country districts through the state the voters should attend to it by pre-arrangement. Owing to the trouble of a special trip to the county seat, many farmers have not registered. It will be very easy for them to meet at the polling place election day and certify to each other's qualifications, and this should be systematically done.

Drying preparations simply develop dry catarrh; they dry up the secretions, which adhere to the membranes and decompose, causing a far more serious trouble than the ordinary form of catarrh. Avoid all drying inhalants, fumes, smokes and snuffs and use that which cleanses, soothes and heals. Ely's Cream Balm is such a remedy and will cure catarrh or cold in the head easily and pleasantly. A trial size will be mailed for 10 cents. All druggists sell the 50c size. Ely Brothers, 56 Warren St., N. Y.

The Balm cures without pain, does not irritate or cause sneezing. It spreads itself over an irritated and angry surface, relieving immediately the painful inflammation. With Ely's Cream Balm you are armed against Nasal Catarrh and Hay Fever.

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Roosevelt Republicans

(Continued from First Page.)

J. W. Bennett was the next speaker introduced and gracefully stepped to the front greeted by a rousing cheer from the assembly. Mr. Bennett opened his remarks by relating an amusing little anecdote illustrating the conditions under which "Honest John" and himself, "Holy Joe" had united their forces with the Republican party, and after the long and hearty applause which followed the narration of this appropriate little story, entered immediately upon the subject of his discourse, the two old parties. He began by inviting the indulgence of his listeners to a thorough and impartial investigation of the fundamental principles upon which the two great parties are posed. He quoted the actual facts and figures of their history and mentioned the leading accomplishments and failures of them both from the standpoint of an unbiased and non-partisan historian. He dealt in an honest manner with their many dead and living issues, giving the importance and causes of the same and defining the general results from the tests that had been made by each party in the past. He spoke at considerable breadth upon the tariff and money questions and showing how they had been so amicably settled by the Republican party in the recent administration. Mr. Bennett lingered more particularly on the money question and going deeper into the details of the same he said, "because of Spain in the Democratic platform it became so rotten that it wouldn't ever support his conscience." He referred with pride to the improvement of our financial conditions under Republican government and cited as a companion the conditions of a few short years ago. With impressive tones he carried his audience back to the panic of 1896, reviewed the long sad story of suffering, showed its results to the standing of our country among the other nations of the world and asked if we should invite through the ballot box of this election, the return of those conditions.

He then turned his attention briefly to the present political situation in the local arena, commenting slightly upon the local tickets of the two parties and closed, urging upon his friends the importance and necessity for electing a entire Republican ticket from Empire to Salem next Monday.

With the closing of Mr. Bennett's speech, chairman Chase, introduced as the next speaker, Allen R. Joy, of Multnomah county. Mr. Joy expressed his joy, prepaid, at being in the home town and surrounded by the many friends of the widely popular "Honest John." Mr. Joy proceeded to the points of a highly interesting and instructive address upon the subject of state and national politics. Going back by way of political review, to the origin of the two great parties, Mr. Joy rehearsed their history, dwelling at considerable breadth upon each important epoch thereof and defining the position in which our great republic was left at its close. He marked distinctly the advancing steps of our nation under the administration of each party as they have occurred since the rebellion. All of the old issues were reviewed and the results to the government of their adoption or rejection noted. The speaker mentioned with noticeable pride the achievements of his party at every stage and foretold, in flaming words of eloquence, the future of our land, if allowed to continue under guidance of a Republican administration. He spoke of broad promises of the golden west, its many and wonderful blessings from the hand of nature and praised in flowery tones, the noble pioneers, who laid with hands of honest toil, this western foundation for a mighty commonwealth. He told of the duties we owed our pioneers, who are now descending, with feeble tread, the western slope of life; he mentioned the manifold obligations of the young Westerner to his country and posterity; and urged upon the young molders of our national destiny, the vast importance of careful and conservative action in matters relating to the government of our nation. Mr. Chase then turned his attention to the politics of the state made a brief, but praising, mention of the local situation in Coos county, spoke in the highest tones of praise for the Honorable Binger Hermann and his services to the coast and concluded by asking the Republicans of Coos county to elect their full ticket next Monday.

Mr. Joy was the last speaker and with the close of his speech the crowd was dismissed and the rally broken up shortly after 10 o'clock.