

# THE AURORA BOREALIS

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Aurora, Or., Thursday July 16, 1908

The editors of Washington and Oregon will meet at Vancouver, Wash., on July 16 and remain in session for three days. They will take a trip up the Columbia and enjoy other amusements.

If the hop market doesn't improve within the next year or two farmers would do well to discard their cultivation and plant grain, fruits, tubers and other crops. Brewers can (and are) making beer without hops, but it is impossible to make bread without wheat.

Bourne wants Taft to promise not to try to name his successor when his term of office expires, if he should be elected president. This is a matter of more than ordinary importance. It isn't quite fair for a president to use all his influence and power to put the man of his choice into the president's chair. We don't believe any of the great leaders of the nation in the past would sanction such methods. Taft is a good man and would make a good president, but he will always be regarded as a Roosevelt creation, pure and simple. Roosevelt could have given the nomination to almost any other man he chose to favor. We hope his action is for the best interests of the country and we sincerely believe Roosevelt thinks it is.

## GOOD ROADS

"Good Roads" seems to have become in recent months the subject of almost every conversation when a group of citizens get together. During the last two weeks there has been more discussion of good roads among members of the Portland Commercial Club than there has about the great political campaign that is before us. When dairymen get together they discuss good roads; it is the same with fruit growers, while automobile owners have become veritable cranks on the subject.

An insistent demand, coming from every section of the State, has been made upon the Portland Commercial Club to call some character of representative meeting to discuss a practical plan whereby all Oregon may have better highways. President W. K. Newell, of the State Board of Horticulture, has written to the Club asking that action be taken without delay; A similar request also comes from Hon., J. W. Bailey, State Dairy & Food Commissioner, on behalf of the dairy interests, and the bankers of Portland and other cities and towns of the State are of one mind on the subject. Many of the cities throughout Oregon are building high class hard surface pavements, and everywhere you go you find men talking "Good Roads."

As a result of all this it has been determined to hold an "Oregon Good Roads Conference" in the Convention Hall (6th floor) of the Portland Commercial Club, Tuesday, August 11th, with morning, afternoon and evening sessions. No interest in the state seems to be more anxious to have a part in developing the good roads sentiment into a realization than the railroads, and as a result a rate of fare and a third has been made for this meeting; tickets will be good on the day before and the day after the meeting, so that it may be extended over the second day if necessary.

An interesting program will be

prepared, but there will be no long-winded theoretical speeches—practical men will be secured and practical questions discussed. The Good Roads Associations of Oregon and Washington will be asked to co-operate in making the meeting a success. The basis of representation will be announced within a few days, but all commercial bodies, county judges, county commissioners, editors, and mayors will be authorized to appoint delegates and urged to have a good representation.

## Education

Too many young people are prone to fritter their time away and waste the best opportunities of their lives. An hour each day spent in reading good books or studying some economic or scientific subject would in after years prove invaluable to many who never seem to realize the importance of study. Not every young man and young woman can have the advantages of a college education, but in this day and age when literature is so abundant and good books may be had for the asking, there is no excuse for any one to grow up an ignoramus. We often hear men and women say, "I never had any chance." Every man and woman has a chance to advance intellectually, morally and spiritually. These things do not come of their own accord. The man who is well versed in educational topics, didn't absorb his information as a matter of course. He gained it by hard work.

Education is the surest safeguard to the perpetuity of a high moral standard in any country. All crime has its inception in ignorance. We often observe crime committed at the hands of educated people, indeed, but it is due to lack of knowledge and appreciation of some law of nature or society. Every misdeed or wrong act against nature's laws has its resultant punishment. This is an exorable law, and when a man or woman once understands it they will endeavor to mould their lives and characters to avoid violating these natural laws. Every man or woman is the architect of his or her own character. They can make it one of strength and beauty or a disgrace to those who brought them into the world.

The chief end of all education is to teach men and women to think. A right thinking man or woman will invariably be a right living man or woman, for "as a man thinketh in his heart, so he is." A great many people in the world spend their days hating and envying those, who, by dint of hard work and perseverance, have reached a higher plane in life. Any man or woman of this class could get a great deal more out of life by dismissing this feeling of envy and hate and working to acquire the same station in life for themselves. Envy and hate hurt no one half so much as the one in whom it exists. They constitute a worse disease than any in the purveyance of materia medica. They only spoil the lives of those who hold them.

Education is not mere cramming of the head with facts; it is the attainment of a higher plane in our moral intellectual and spiritual existence. And every man and woman, should strive to attain to as great a height as possible, and young people will find the path much easier by starting while they are young and forming those habits that make for the most enjoyment and the most happiness of life.

## John Sharpe Williams

We had the pleasure of hearing John Sharpe Williams, Mississippi's favorite son, and former leader of the democrats in the House of Representatives, at Chautauqua Saturday afternoon. Mr. Williams does not pose as an orator, but he probably is without a peer in America as a debater. He is a master of irony, invective, sarcasm, and declares that he uses these only to elucidate a

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question or drive home a point. He has the soft Southern drawl in speaking, with a slight rasping or sharpness to his voice that jars but commands attention. At the same time he possesses tremendous persuasive powers, and the listener is indelibly impressed with his sincerity of purpose and deep conviction of what yourself, when all of your intellectual powers are focused on his. Mr. Williams is the embodiment of simplicity—nothing bombastic or hidden about him. We told Mr. Williams of an old uncle we had in Mississippi who boasted Williams for his first term in congress, when the great debater was then a struggling lawyer in Yazoo City. "Uncle John" wrote an article for the Yazoo City Herald, telling of Williams' wonderful qualities as he saw them. When the paper came out he began reading his article to a small crowd of friends, and as he continued reading his enthusiasm grew warmer and warmer. After a while his jaws began to snap at such a rapid rate that his false teeth flew out and dropped on the floor. Uncle's enthusiasm cooled off somewhat while he went in search of his false teeth. Mr. Williams enjoyed the story. He remembered the old man well, and has kept up with him since those days when they were companions of almost equal station in life. "I am trying to make enough money to make a first payment on a house in Washington City," Mr. Williams explained in the course of our conversation. "You are not foolish enough to buy a house in Washington City, are you?" asked Governor Chamberlain, handing him a cigar. "I am not going to buy a house" he replied. "I am just going to make the first payment on it and then trust to God for the rest."

that sentiment which lies at the root of all oratory which he calls "prose poetry, is the grandest attribute of the human make up. He is a close student of men and books and does not fail to use his great native powers for political expediency. Having a retentive memory for names and faces, he hangs on to all new personalities with which he comes in contact with a bull dog tenacity. In him are blended the shrewd acumen of the politician, the sensitive grasp of the artist and the practical sense of the business man. It is a pleasure to come in contact and touch shoulders with what America chooses to call her great men. We enjoyed the privilege of a little chat with Mr. Williams after he had gotten out of the crowd. The time to measure a man is when you have him all to Clay and Webster. He imitated them in debate, oratory, and strove to reach their plane in intellectual development. He has wasted no opportunities, and made the best use he could of the powers that God has given him. Such is our judgement of him as a man. His political views are another question.

## WILSONVILLE

Willamette's ball team was defeated on our diamond Sunday by a score of 5 to 10. Sherwood White Sox defeated the Union Meat Co., team 3 to 4, on the Sherwood diamond Sunday. W. W. Graham and Ward Alden were guests in our midst three days this week. Joe Thornton's new residence is nearly completed. Mr. and Mrs. Billy Flynn have moved into their new home. Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Stroup are camped here for the summer. Mr. Stroup is working on the gravel train.

The Ladies aid of the Congregational church at Hood View are to have a Church Fair at their grove at Hood View, on the afternoon and evening of Aug. 12. All are invited to attend as well as to contribute to the stock for sale. Anything useful or ornamental is acceptable. Very few in our midst are attending the Chautauqu this season, owing to the late hay and cherry crop.

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