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THE LANE COUNTY NEWS

W. A. DILL - - - - - Editor and Manager

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THE CAMPING GROUND AS AN ASSET

Col. E. Hofer of the Oregon Manufacturer is the original guardian of established business. Interspersed through a concise summary of development news of Oregon, which he sends out every week to the newspapers, he puts little comments on the public attitude toward business and business enterprises. In a recent letter he says: "A public market to compete with the merchant—a public camping place to compete with the hotels, does not help business."

Apparently Col. Hofer has jumped at a conclusion. The public market undoubtedly does compete in a measure with the established merchant. Whether or not the camping ground does is an open question. This year, as never before, automobile tourists have been carrying their camp equipment, and have been spending the nights in the open, going to the hotels only when the weather has been too inclement to camp out.

They have found, however, that all too often the only available camping ground has been at one side of the dusty road, with the water supply an open stream of doubtful purity.

As a convenience to these people, Springfield has provided a block of ground, where pure water may be had, and where stoves make cooking easy. Every night since the ground was opened there has been one, or two, and more parties camped.

And their presence there has not meant the loss of a single cent to any hotel keeper, for these campers were all prepared to camp out and had no intention of going to a hotel. On the contrary, their presence here has meant the purchase of food supplies and of confections.

The World's Greatest Exposition

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Never before in the history of the world has there been conducted such a magnificent and wonderful Exposition. Here is artistically presented the productions of the mind and labors of mankind throughout the ages.

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Southern Pacific

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The big thing, however, has been the hearty response of the visitors to the hospitality extended. Party after party has spoken in appreciation of the facilities furnished, and they have complained only that news of the camp ground here has not been spread farther over the state.

Ever since the grounds were opened there has been a spirit of hospitality offered. There has been no congregating of idle curiosity-seekers, but a few of the business men have dropped in at times and talked with the visitors. From what we have heard from those already here, they would appreciate it if more of the business men called. The travelers want to know about the country, and while they are resting they are glad to ask questions and get the information and the viewpoints of people of this section. Some who have stopped have been looking for locations; the proper spirit of cordiality—the friendly answering of questions—may be the deciding factor.

Recently as was the Springfield ground established, it has demonstrated its value as a means of community advertising, and before the travel season of the year is over, will have amply repaid all of the cost and effort required to establish it.

RELIEF FOR LUMBER SHOULD COME NOW.

Whether or not it is possible for the lumbermen of the Pacific Northwest so to present their case to the government that relief will follow we do not undertake to say. But that the case of the lumbermen is one that requires relief, and that there is at least a hope of it through an understanding with the government by the way of the trade commission, is becoming a belief more or less general. With regard to such relief as may be had, it is recognized that it must be immediate to be of any value.

In the local presentation of the lumbermen's case before the trade commission, made by bankers and others, there was a great deal said about speculation and over-production as causes of the present plight; and if all that was said in that regard were true, and the presentation of the matter were permitted to rest there, there could be no prospect of immediate relief. Even if it were possible to proceed to the confiscation of land and the dismantling of mills, the condition of the lumber trade of this section would not be materially improved. The only course that can save the day for the lumber trade of this section is that which will permit the industry to organize, so that present demoralization may be cured by efficient and unified methods of marketing, like those employed in the marketing of fruits and other agricultural products. That lumbermen are withheld from such organization by fear of the law, which apparently has different application in their case than it does in some other industries, is the indisputable fact.

Is it possible for lumbermen to combine under safeguards that will prevent hurtful monopoly? Clearly, that is the question which the lumber interests must first study and answer for themselves. It is for the lumbermen to present the crying necessity and suggest the method by which immediate relief may come. Manifestly the industry is in distress, and the result is damage to the general industrial welfare of this section. This distress is not to be relieved by quarreling with conditions that cannot be changed. It might be relieved by intelligent combination, if such may be effected within the law, in which there shall be careful prevention of monopoly and exploitation.—Telegram.

A NEW COMMISSION

Everybody will watch with interest the result of the hearings before the Trade Commission. It is announced that the commission will try and ascertain "what is the matter of commerce" in the United States and between trade centers of our country. It is really laughable to watch one of those high brow commissions sit in solemn conclave to discuss "What is the matter of commerce" when any smart school boy who has read the daily papers could show them in ten minutes how the same politicians who created this latest commission have created dozens of others like it which have so burdened industry with useless regulations that there is practically no commerce left to regulate. So far all the commission has done has been to tell the manufacturers, lumbermen and fruit growers what they "could not do" and they held up the development of foreign business at every turn. They have not advanced a single idea that would get a dollar's worth of business at every turn. They have not advanced a single idea that would get a dollar's worth of business or maintain a single payroll. They are supposed to "aid the manufacturer and producer in securing markets." "Watch them and see if they add enough business to the Northwest to pay the taxpayers for the expenses of their trip out here—Albany Democrat.

If Springfield could only persuade that man Bingenheimer, who seems to be furnishing the only real new ideas in Eugene these days, to come to Springfield, and add his skill to the ability of the Springfield people to get out and DO, my, what a town we would have.

Five children, locked in the house while the parents went to a party, were burned to death in Idaho the other night. Why will parents persist in taking such awful chances?

96-223
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