

Spray Courier.

Thursday June 8, 1916.

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ADVERTISING RATES

Professional Cards 75 cts. per month
Display ads One square \$0.75
" One-fourth column 2.50
" One-half column 4.00
" One column 8.00
Business locals per line first insertion
10 cents, subsequent 5 cents.
Special rates for longer time.
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EDITORIALS

The business men of Detroit, Michigan, have made official acknowledgement of their reliance upon war orders for their present prosperity. The state tax commission has increased the assessment of Detroit and Wayne County to two billion dollars, basing the estimate upon present indicated values. The business men have protested, alleging that present values are but temporary and abnormal, and will fall off as soon as the war in Europe is over. Secretary of Commerce Redfield and the Democratic National Committee will not give much publicity to this protest, but it is a pretty strong indication of the real facts.

Samuel O. Dunn, an expert statistician in such matters, reports that fewer miles of railroad were built in this country in 1915 than in any year since the civil war. The building is the real index to prosperity. A hundred miles of new railroad track make a better reflection of sound conditions of industrial well-being than a hundred new concrete structures hurriedly thrown together for the manufacture of war material.

The McAdo junketing party returned from South America with the assertion that suspicion of the United States has now disappeared from those regions. We believe it. Having looked upon McAdo, having heard his speeches and having witnessed his affront to the President of Peru, we are sure that the suspicious of Latin America against us have now hardened into grim certainty.

Senator Chilton of West Virginia seeks to minimize the importance of the recent Congressional by-election in his State. This is entirely natural. The Democrats have always tried to insist that the results of the elections of 1914 and 1915 constitute a Democratic victory. If so, it is the same class as the diplomatic "triumphs" which the administration is so constantly gaining—in the columns of Democratic newspapers. In truth no Democratic leader of conse-

quence and of judgment can be found who will claim privately that the drift of political action is anything but strongly against the Democracy. Of course, some of them will continue to whistle to keep their courage up. Senator Chilton has the best reasons for this course, because he is a candidate for re-election this fall.

VALUABLE PRIZES FOR FARM PRODUCTS.

At a meeting of the Wheeler County Fair Board held in Fossil, March 25th with the directors William Rettie, Geo. S. Donnelly and James S. Stewart present, officers for the current year were elected as follows: President Wm. Rettie; Vice President I Blann; John Stewart Secretary and Treasurer.

In the matter of prizes for the best Farm exhibit, it was decided to make two classes this year so as to give the dry farmer an equal chance with the irrigation farmer. Under the ruling the following prizes will be awarded:

For the best dry land farm and garden exhibit raised by exhibitor during the year; First prize \$60.00; Second prize \$45.00; Third prize \$30.00.

For the best farm and garden irrigation exhibit raised by exhibitor during the year 1916; First prize \$60.00; Second prize \$45.00; Third prize \$30.00.

It was decided to give two prizes \$10.00 and \$5.00 for the stock Judging contest open to all students in the county schools and to every one else under 21 years of age.

The contest will consist of each person judging various classes of stock and explaining to those present the reasons for his decision, point by point.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

Department of the Interior,
U. S. Land Office at The Dalles,
Oregon, May 20th 1916.

Notice is hereby given that George E. Gilbert, of Winlock, Oregon, who on Sept. 19th 1912, made Homestead Entry No. 010737 and on June 4th 1914, made additional Homestead Entry No. 013358, for SE 1/4, Section 24, E 1/2 NE 1/4, SW 1/4 NE 1/4, NW 1/4, Section 25, Township 8 South, Range 23 East, Willamette Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make Final Three Year Proof to establish claim to the land above described, before David E. Baxter U. S. Commissioner, at Spray Oregon, on the 8th day of July, 1916.

Claimant names as witnesses:
Burr Frutchee, Wesley Rowley,
Archie Boyce and James S. Hunt
all of Winlock, Oregon.

H. Frank Woodcock, Register.
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State of Oregon

Senators: George E. Chamberlain and Harry Lane. Representatives: C. N. McArthur, W. C. Hawley and N. J. Sinnott. Supreme Judges: T. A. McBride, Geo. H. Burnett, H. J. Bean, P. A. Moore, Robert Eakin, L. T. Harris and Henry E. Benson. Governor: J. E. Withycombe. Secretary of State: Ben. W. Alcott. Secretary of Treasury: Thomas B. Kay. Attorney General: G. M. Brown. Superintendent of Public Instruction: J. A. Churchill. Printer: R. A. Harris. Engineer: J. H. Lewis. Labor Commissioner: O. P. Hoff. Rail Road Commissioner: F. J. Miller. Water Superintendent: G. T. Cochran. Representatives: G. C. Clark and James S. Stewart. Senator: W. H. Ragsdale. Food and Dairy Commissioner: Dr. J. W. Bailey. Circuit Judge of 11th Judicial District: D. E. Parker.

WHEELER COUNTY

Attorney: Joseph K. Starr. Judge: Henry D. Keyes. Commissioners: M. Dukek and K. E. Wright. Clerk: Scott Sasser. Treasurer: A. B. Lamb. School Superintendent: Henry J. Simmons. Sheriff: Oscar Kelsay. Assessor: Peter Hartman. Surveyor: Robert Hendricks.

BUSINESS CARDS.

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ATTORNEY - AT - LAW,
Will practice in all courts in the state
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D. E. BAXTER,
United States Commissioner
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Whiskers amputated without pain
or whiskers returned.
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Attorneys for the State Land Board in Wheeler County. School money loaned at six per cent interest on improved agricultural lands at not to exceed one-third cash value, regardless of perishable improvements.

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TAXES
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For The
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STEPHENS BILL PROTECTS PUBLIC

Alimed at Dishonest Advertising
and False Pretenses.

TO AID HONEST BUSINESS.

Measure Will Prevent Injury to Smaller Cities and Towns From Cutthroat Monopolistic Methods of Mail Order Houses and Big City Stores—Will Insure Uniform Prices and High Quality.

By W. BOB HOLLAND.

"A bill to protect the public against dishonest advertising and false pretenses in advertising."

This is the comprehensive title of a measure introduced in the present congress by Representative Dan V. Stephens of Nebraska. A similar bill has been introduced in the senate by Senator Ashurst of Arizona. No one can find fault with legislation that will achieve the objects stated in the titles of the Stephens-Ashurst bill. The public certainly needs protection "against dishonest advertising and false pretenses in merchandising."

The bill now under consideration is the successor of the Stevens bill, a measure introduced in the last congress by Representative Stevens of New Hampshire. It was widely discussed and died in committee after several public hearings, at which its merits and demerits were considered. The Stephens bill embodies the changes that seemed advisable after these hearings and discussions, and it is believed that in its present form it safeguards the producer, the merchant and the consumer.

For many years the right of a producer to contract with merchants for the resale of his products at standard, uniform prices was generally recognized and its legality was not questioned. Then the supreme court of the United States held that such a contract was "in restraint of trade" and "against public policy." The court divided on the question, 5 to 4, and the majority found no specific law forbidding the practice that had long been common, but held that congress had intended the Sherman law to prohibit such business methods.

Agency System is Legal.

This court made law upset long established custom, but it does not prevent the end sought from being reached by other means. Producers who wish to have no discrimination shown to favored individuals can insure uniform prices for their goods by establishing branch establishments or by appointing agents. This is the method followed by manufacturers of automobiles. Bakers who sell their products within a restricted area can also regulate their prices by making grocers their agents and thereby retaining title to their bread and rolls until they reach the consumer.

Producers of other articles, goods sold in small quantities and which must depend on established merchants for their distribution, are denied the right that men in other lines have. The Stephens-Ashurst bill is designed to restore to these producers a protection they had before it was taken away from them by the supreme court.

Cut rate department stores, so called "chain" drug and grocery stores in the large cities, and mail order houses use cut prices on standard, well known articles to draw trade away from small stores and small towns. The loss they may suffer on these standard articles is more than made up by the high profits on anonymous goods or goods put up under their own brands. In this way the producer is injured because the reputation of his product is ruined; the retail merchant is damaged because he cannot afford to advertise widely a special bargain "bait" to attract customers to whom other goods may be sold at a profit; the consumer is damaged because producers are not encouraged to maintain quality and because inferior articles are substituted.

Ample Protection Afforded.

The Stephens-Ashurst bill is not compulsory. To take advantage of its provisions the producer must register his trademark or special brand with the bureau of corporations in Washington and must pay a fee of \$10. He must not have a monopoly of articles belonging to the same general class of merchandise, and he must not agree with any competitor to control prices.

The producer must also file a schedule giving the prices at which his listed article is sold to wholesalers, to retailers and to the consumer. This schedule of prices becomes a public document. The prices scheduled must be uniform to buyers under similar circumstances. This permits reduction in prices for quantity purchases and allowances to equalize freight rates.

A merchant who decides to quit business, who wishes to discontinue any line of listed goods or who becomes bankrupt must first offer such listed articles to the manufacturers for redemption at the full price paid. Should the manufacturers neglect or refuse to redeem the goods then the dealer can sell them at any price he desires or can get. Damaged goods must also be offered for exchange or redemption, and if later offered for sale at reduced prices the reason for the reduction must be made known to purchasers. There is also a clause permitting reasonable sales.

Spray Water Works

Rates

Dwelling, \$1.50 per month.
Irrigation, \$1.50 per month, for 1-2 in
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NOTICE

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