

POLITICALLY INDEPENDENT.

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OUR NORMALS AGAIN.

Our readers will pardon us if we refer to the subject of our so-called Normal schools again. As a matter of fact we have no normal schools at all, if we use the Normal of the order and wealthier states as a standard of comparison. In all of these schools of the older states, we believe, no students are admitted except by or she has completed the preparatory course and who expect to make teaching a vocation. In most of them, too, the students are required to teach in the particular state, a stated number of years. Our Normal (?) make no requirements as to teaching and each of them, we are told, do preparatory work. Indeed, there is no use for a common district school in the towns where the Normals are located, except for primary work. The state is simply embracing collegiate courses, for these favored localities.

When the state took charge of, at least two of these schools, it was understood that no appropriations from the state for their maintenance would be asked. They simply desired state authority in grant diplomas, which, we believe, are sufficient to entitle the holder to teach in any of the public schools of the state. The state gave them the desired authority. It soon developed, that an appropriation of a few thousands of the state's funds would help to fit these schools to do better work. At each successive session of the legislature, lobbies in their (the schools) interests were attentively listened to and the lobbyists were usually successful in accomplishing results. Two years ago \$50,000 was appropriated for these four schools. This session they are out again, asking that the large sum of \$211,000 may be given them. About one-half of this amount is desired for new buildings. Monmouth wants a \$35,000-territory; Weston one to cost \$25,000; Ashland one to cost \$10,000 and Drain demands \$40,000 for new buildings. The query is, if this colossal amount is voted to these schools, what will they demand two or four years hence? Now every dollar that has been voted to any of the state colleges, has been in violation of the state constitution, and every member who gave his assent thereto, violated his oath of office. Members, no doubt, consoled their consciences by saying, "We were voting money for a good cause; but this did not do away with the fact that they, the lawmakers, were violating their oaths as well as constitutional law, in doing so.

Another feature of the case, that may have not been considered by the legislature is: At Albany, Seaside, McMinnville, Forest Grove and other points are located some of our oldest collegiate institutes. They are out a manager exist now, through private donations and a tuition charge from their students. The state does not require students at her colleges to pay tuition and thereby becomes an unfair competitor in the educational field and no doubt would cripple these more venerable private colleges. In selecting labor for the convicts at the penitentiary, great stress is placed upon competition of convict with free labor. Is not the state doing a similar unfair competition with her free collegiate schools?

The question of making these appropriations, ought to be submitted through the referendum, to the people for their ratification or rejection. If probably will be so submitted, unless the "emergency" clause is appended to the bill. At all events, it is well for the people to be considering the matter that they may be prepared to take prompt action at the proper time. Unless a bill is called in this wholesale extravagance that has rapidly grown upon us, we will soon have a rate of taxation so high, that emigrants will give the state a wide berth and the burden of taxation will become unbearable. The legislature will never have a better opportunity to shift the responsibility upon the people. If it must, let the bill carrying the appropriation pass; but only with the proviso that it shall be submitted to the people.

Senator Brownell has introduced a bill in the legislature, which, if it becomes a law, will authorize the calling of a constitutional convention. Better be a little cautious about that business, gentlemen. It is a fact that our present constitution is old and somewhat at variance with the desires of some of our modern statesmen (?). It is a fact also, that so little regard is held for the antiquated document by some of our present day lawmakers, that they at once forget that such an instrument is in existence. Had they remembered the provisions and obeyed them the people would not now be burdened with taxation. If we had a new constitution and did not observe its provisions any better than we do those of the present one, wherein would we be benefited?

Washington is having its usual red hot fight for the selection of U. S. senator. If any argument was necessary to sustain the election of senators by direct vote of the people, Washington can furnish it.

"THE BRAKES."

Every taxpayer in the state of Oregon, who has his own good and that of posterity at heart, will most emphatically endorse the sentiment of the following excellent leading article taken from the Morning Oregonian: "The Oregonian holds it beyond question that the people of Oregon, in their haste to 'make public improvements' and to 'milk up the state,' are laying burdens on themselves, and on the future, which can be carried only with great difficulty and toil. Here is a people who want now, for use, convenience and enjoyment, everything that our old and rich states possess. They are not content to build up slowly and surely, till they get a foundation of wealth on which new enterprises may be supported, but they want everything right now. Protest if you will against schemes of public expenditure that are much too large for state, county or city, in our present stage of development, and you get the answer that 'Massachusetts has this, Indiana has that, and it is a shame that Oregon should be behind other states.' Calix, therefore, are made on state, county and city—calls till ingenuity would appear to be in danger of exhaustion. Yet there are always new devices, calling for 'more.' When it is asserted that 'in Oregon we are entitled to everything as good as they have anywhere'—schools, university preparation and extensions, libraries, bridges, roads and public buildings, corps of state, county and city officials, covering every actual need in a populous and wealthy state, and every imaginary want in our own—the fact is overlooked that in Oregon there is less population and less wealth than in a second or even a third-rate county in many an Eastern state. If we do not go too fast in Oregon we shall reach a status after a while where we can have everything in the way of public service that they have in Ohio or Michigan; for we shall have the population and money to support it. But excess now simply means suppression of the means of growth. It is as if a young country, having a sum of money to begin with, should lay it out in furniture and equipage so as to 'make life comfortable,' and then borrow more. The legislature ought not to make mistakes here. If the Oregonian may be permitted a word, it would ask the Legislature to exercise a constant vigilance over all propositions to create new offices, to subsidize additional expenditures, to extend this service, to increase that appropriation. To the minds of those who 'want things,' everything they ask is presented as positively necessary, and nothing less will do. Moreover, a check should be held upon the disposition to borrow to make public debts in order to get things wanted now, instead of waiting rationally till communities can grow up to them. To mortgage the future is a method of paralysis as sure as waste of the present. Rome wasn't built in a day and the commonwealth of Massachusetts—it was not made in one century, nor in two. No part of any locomotive machine is more useful than the brakes—or so really and absolutely necessary."

Surely there must now be a number of planets in conjunction, whose influence upon the earth is for evil. With the Japanese-Russian war, with internal dissensions that will probably result in revolution in Russia and corruption that promises to involve quite a percentage of the people of the United States, one is warranted in concluding that there is something radically wrong somewhere. No sooner has one war ceased between nations than another is commenced by other nations. Discoveries of corruption and dishonesty, crowd thickly, one upon the other, until one is lead to exclaim "What next?" If, in the end, good results. If wars, investigations and prosecutions of leaders, law thieves, etc., result in making mankind less dishonest and more tolerant of human rights perhaps the price the world is paying, is not too dear. But from present conditions the teaching of Christianity in influencing mankind, does not seem over encouraging. It is said "The darkest hour is just before daylight" and let us hope the turmoil of the present time is representative of this "Darkest hour" and that the dawn of peace, of honesty and integrity on the part of men, is close at hand.

When we were poring last week's issue of the News, press dispatches indicated that Chairman Burton would prevent congress from appropriating anything for the Cello canal. We are now glad to state the chairman relented and consented to have \$50,000 with a pledge of \$250,000 more, reported with the bill. Just what pressure Senator Fulton and Congressman Jones and Williamson, were able to bring to bear, which caused Chairman Burton to change his mind is not quite clear. But they, with the help of others, succeeded, and the work is to be undertaken by Uncle Sam and that is well enough.

Heavy snowstorms and exceedingly cold weather visited the Eastern states, last week. Somewhat different from our Oregon weather.

CENTENNIAL NOTES.

New Hampshire's building at the Lewis and Clark Centennial will be a reconstruction of the birthplace of Daniel Webster.

The finest collection of tiger skins ever exhibited will form a part of Siam's display at the Lewis and Clark Fair.

An elaborate display of toys will be a feature of Switzerland's \$30,000 exhibit at the Lewis and Clark Centennial.

A company of marines from the United States navy will give daily drills and maintain a model camp at the Lewis and Clark Exposition.

The Emanuel Swedenborg Club, of Chicago, an association interested in the perpetuation and data of the illustrious philosopher and scientist, will erect a handsome pavilion at the Lewis and Clark Centennial.

A comprehensive exhibit of Oregon grasses, which won the grand prize at St. Louis, in competition with the world, will be shown at the Lewis and Clark Centennial.

An exhibit showing the method and extent of flax growing in Marion county, Oregon, will form part of that country's exhibit at the Lewis and Clark Centennial.

Work on the Oregon building for the Lewis and Clark Exposition has been begun, and the building will be completed by March 15. The structure will be of handsome appearance, 4x300 feet, and will cost \$9275.

An infernal machine, intended for the commander of the Spanish warship Viscaya, which visited New York just after the destruction of the Maine, will be displayed in the Dead-letter office exhibit at the Lewis and Clark Centennial.

WASHINGTON—The river and harbor bill, which was finally agreed upon by the house committee, carries the following items: Mouth Columbia river, \$300,000 cash and \$300,000 additional under continuing contract.

Dalles-Cello canal, \$50,000 cash and \$250,000 under continuing contract.

Willamette and Columbia below Portland, \$100,000 cash and \$12,000 under continuing contract. Willamette above Portland, \$50,000.

Columbia between Vancouver and mouth of Willamette, \$30,000 and \$30,000 under continuing contract.

Columbia at Cascades, \$30,000. Upper Columbia and Snake, \$10,000. Coquille river, \$55,000.

Harbors along Oregon coast, for maintenance, \$10,000.

Oregon maintains six colleges where the boys and girls of the state where the colleges are located, can obtain a collegiate education as easily and at as little financial cost as can the boys and girls of other localities obtain a common school education. This is unjust. Taxpayers in Seio, for instance, ought not to be taxed to give collegiate educations to boys and girls in Eugene, Corvallis, Monmouth or any other place, when she can not give such education to her own boys and girls. The News thinks the legislature does wrong and violates the state constitution whenever it votes a dollar of public funds to their than our public schools. Let the public schools be made as complete and thorough as possible so that boys and girls in every nook and corner of the state may have equal opportunity. When this is done, the state has done its full duty. To go further than this for special localities, is unjust. Let all be treated equally.

Seio should begin to think of building sewers in the central portion of the city, some day an epidemic will visit us and we will follow those of our loved ones to the cemetery. Then we will wish that we had built sewers, but it will be too late. The expense of placing sewers in the city would not be great, as sewers get clear of all filth and unhealthy cesspools, if we will but use them.

President Roosevelt is receiving the infomment of a democrat for his recommendations for regulating freight rates, tariff reform; etc. Now if he can get the endorsement of republicans, his recommendations will bear fruit.

It begins to look as though the legislature will pass a flat salary law. Well, all the good things will come if we wait long enough. Waiting, though, becomes monotonous sometimes.

The principle cause for the calling of the constitutional convention, is to get clear of the Initiative and Referendum. It don't suit such grafting politicians as Senator George C. Brownell.

The people have suspended judgment in the cases of Senator Mitchell and Congressman Hermann. Their trials will probably occur in April.

Kodol Dyspepsia Curs Digests what you eat.

Curious Facts.

Manila gets carry water in bamboo cylinders.

The most widely known English writer in Japan is Carlyle.

There are some places in Europe where women regularly plow instead of horses.

The largest window in Britain is the east window in York Cathedral. It is 75 feet high and 12 feet wide.

Hundreds of tons of Egyptian rags are exported every year into the United States to supply the paper mills.

The annual catch of fish in American waters is 1,000,000,000 pounds, which represents a money value of \$47,180,000. Storks have no voice. The only noise they make is "klapping" (snapping their great red mandibles rapidly and loudly).

It is estimated that 5 per cent, of about \$5,000,000 of the annual income from American railroads goes to foreign investors.

The King of Spain is passionately fond of horseback riding. He began as a boy of 7, and chose bigger horses as he grew up.

The most valuable sword in Britain is one that was presented to Lord Walsley. The hilt is set with brilliants, and it is valued at \$10,000.

The pygmy plant is nearly extinct in Egypt, and the only place where it is now to be found in abundance is along the Anago River in Siam.

The Brooklyn Bridge has 135 feet of clear headway under the center of the bridge at high water. The towers extend 2.8 feet above high water.

Drivers in the British navy, before being passed as proficient in the craft, have to be able to work 1-12 fathoms of water for an hour and 20 fathoms for a quarter of an hour.

When the extension now planned for the nation's capital at Washington has been made the edifice, including the works of art which it contains, will have cost nearly \$20,000,000.

It is suggested that the waste engine cans in Hawaii—more than 2,000,000 tons a year—which is now consumed as fuel, could be more profitably used for the manufacture of paper.

An invasion of mice is reported from all parts of South Australia. It is said, to the large quantities of wheat left on the ground during the recent unfavorable harvest weather.

Among the interesting sights of Hindoos are the Garlic ovens of India, artificial temples of worship, which were cut out of solid rock a century or so the Christian era, it is claimed.

A public subscription has been started in Holland toward repairing the ruined cottage at Zaandam, in which the czar Peter the great lived while he was working as a maver in the docks.

A favorite device for lanterns used in the professions to celebrate the Japanese victories is one having on its four sides the Rising Sun, the Union Jack, the Italian flag, and the Stars and Stripes.

What is said to be the largest electro-magnet in the world has been installed in the Bridgeport (Conn.) Hospital. It will be used for extracting pieces of iron and steel from the eyes of machinists and other metal workers who may be injured.

WINTER EXCURSION RATES TO YAQUINA BAY.

A New Departure on the Southern Pacific and Corvallis & Eastern Railroads.

Recognizing a long felt want, and desiring to give the public cheap rates to the coast in the winter as well as in the summer, for persons who desire to see the bounding billows in their wildest moods and inhale the pure ozone of the winter air at the coast, the Southern Pacific Company in connection with the Corvallis and Eastern Railroad have placed on sale, taking effect Nov. 2, 1904, and continuing until March 31, 1905, from all points on their lines, round trip tickets to Yaquina at the same rate as during the summer. These tickets will be sold on Wednesdays and Saturdays only and will be good for return sixty days from date of sale.

Dr. Minthorn's sanitary baths will be in operation and anyone who desires a genuine health resort during the winter cannot do better than spend a month or so at Yaquina.

Similar tickets will be sold from Astoria, Corvallis, Philipnath and all points west on the Corvallis and Eastern R. R.

Full information as to rates, baggage, etc., can be obtained by applying to the nearest S. P. agent or direct from W. E. Cotman, G. P. A., S. P. Co., Portland, or Edna Stone, manager, C. & E. R. Co., Albany.

Through tickets to Portland are sold by the C. & E. at Corvallis, and by the S. P. Portland to Corvallis via Albany and the C. & E. at the same rate as via the west side, viz. \$2.00. C. & E. trains connect at Albany with the Albany-Portland local both ways.

Train No. 1, Portland to Albany, 12:45 P. M. Arrives Albany 1:30 P. M.

Train No. 2, Albany to Portland, 1:30 P. M. Arrives Portland 2:15 P. M.

Train No. 3, Albany to Corvallis, 1:30 P. M. Arrives Corvallis 2:15 P. M.

Train No. 4, Corvallis to Albany, 2:15 P. M. Arrives Albany 3:00 P. M.

Train No. 5, Albany to Astoria, 1:30 P. M. Arrives Astoria 2:15 P. M.

Train No. 6, Astoria to Albany, 2:15 P. M. Arrives Albany 3:00 P. M.

Train No. 7, Albany to Seaside, 1:30 P. M. Arrives Seaside 2:15 P. M.

Train No. 8, Seaside to Albany, 2:15 P. M. Arrives Albany 3:00 P. M.

Train No. 9, Albany to McMinnville, 1:30 P. M. Arrives McMinnville 2:15 P. M.

Train No. 10, McMinnville to Albany, 2:15 P. M. Arrives Albany 3:00 P. M.

Train No. 11, Albany to Forest Grove, 1:30 P. M. Arrives Forest Grove 2:15 P. M.

Train No. 12, Forest Grove to Albany, 2:15 P. M. Arrives Albany 3:00 P. M.

Train No. 13, Albany to Seaside, 1:30 P. M. Arrives Seaside 2:15 P. M.

Train No. 14, Seaside to Albany, 2:15 P. M. Arrives Albany 3:00 P. M.

Train No. 15, Albany to Astoria, 1:30 P. M. Arrives Astoria 2:15 P. M.

Train No. 16, Astoria to Albany, 2:15 P. M. Arrives Albany 3:00 P. M.

Train No. 17, Albany to Seaside, 1:30 P. M. Arrives Seaside 2:15 P. M.

Train No. 18, Seaside to Albany, 2:15 P. M. Arrives Albany 3:00 P. M.

Train No. 19, Albany to McMinnville, 1:30 P. M. Arrives McMinnville 2:15 P. M.

Train No. 20, McMinnville to Albany, 2:15 P. M. Arrives Albany 3:00 P. M.



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Train No. 12, Forest Grove to Albany, 2:15 P. M. Arrives Albany 3:00 P. M.

Train No. 13, Albany to Seaside, 1:30 P. M. Arrives Seaside 2:15 P. M.

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