

# The Santiam News.

Politically Independent.

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PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY BY  
T. L. DUGGER,  
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

One year in advance ..... \$1.25  
One year, at end of year ..... 1.50  
One year, at end of 2 years ..... 2.00  
Six months in advance ..... .75  
Three months in advance ..... .50  
Single copy in wrapper ..... .05

### ADVERTISING RATES:

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Special obituary notices, per line ..... 65  
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### LOSING CASTE

The fact will not be disputed that the American people are rapidly losing their respect for our courts, from the highest to the lowest. Loth as we may be to reach this conclusion, recent decisions in United States and state appellate courts, drive the fact home in our minds, and clinches it tight and fast.

What is the use of expending time and money in convicting criminals, if appellate courts set aside verdicts and judgments of trial courts on, oftentimes, strained technicalities. The American people, especially the law-abiding, would love to know that our courts are absolutely pure and just; that when a man is haled before them, he is sure to get a square deal. Nothing more nor nothing less. We would love to know and feel that our courts are wholly unbiased, and are above being influenced by money or position in society.

A poor devil steals a loaf of bread, mayhap, to keep himself or family from starving, and he is sure of punishment. A bank president or cashier loots his bank or squanders the money of his depositors. After years of delay, brought about by legal quibbles and technicalities, and then may be a light punishment is visited upon him.

A case in point, is the late ruling of the California court of appeals in the Schmitz case. Nobody who followed the trial of Schmitz in the French restaurant cases, has the least doubt that he was guilty of the crime of extortion. Even the court of appeals could not have the brazen effrontery, knowing the evidence adduced, to set aside the verdict on mere legal technical points. Schmitz had been proven guilty of the crime charged. There was no doubt that, even in the minds of this biased court. The bolder method of declaring extortion as practiced by the Ruef-Schmitz gang not a crime, was resorted to. Had Schmitz committed murder instead of collecting blackmail from these French law-breakers, as was proven beyond the shadow of a doubt, this court could have declared murder not a crime with the same propriety.

It looks as though California must first purify her courts before she can hope to convict her bribers and persons guilty of extortion. It is such decisions as the one in question, that drives the people to lynching, to enforce obedience to the law.

The recent decision of the U. S. supreme court in the Williamson case, is equally as great an abuse of common sense law and justice. No one doubts for an instant but what Williamson had violated the U. S. land laws as had been previously construed. Hence a construction of law was necessary, that would make Williamson's crime not a crime, and this accommodating to high-class criminal court, proved equal to the requirement.

A still more remarkable innovation in the construction of law and practice, occurred in a southern Oregon court recently. A Medford editor criticized the Jackson county grand jury for failing to indict a party for the crime of assault with a deadly weapon upon the person of the Medford mayor. Action for criminal libel followed. At the trial the editor offered to introduce testimony to show the matter of which he was accused, instead of being libelous, was a fact. The court would not permit the introduction of the evidence, and, of course the editor was convicted.

These are just a few of the remarkable antics of the courts that are creating a loss of faith, by the people, in their wisdom and honesty. When the people lose all faith in the wisdom, honor and rectitude of our courts, revolution or anarchy is the logical sequence.

With our state courts the remedy lies in the hands of the people. There are honest, upright lawyers, who would interpret law without fear or favor. The people will, eventually, be forced to drop all party prejudice and elect such men to the judiciary. The U. S. judiciary is entirely different. The U. S. judge holds his office for life. The only way he can be displaced is by impeachment proceedings. An amendment to the Federal constitution making the judiciary elective instead of appointive, would bring these judicial officers

nearer the people and make it possible to, in time, get rid of the corrupt or incompetent.

Perhaps the greatest danger that threatens the stability of our government, is in a corrupt or incompetent judiciary. When notoriously guilty criminals escape punishment, because of technical construction of law, we cannot help losing the respect for the judiciary, that an honest, upright court should and could command. In the exactment of law protecting the individual, we have been so careful, that rogues, through technical construction are able to escape punishment.

Our courts are badly in need of reform. We need more Judge Dunnes and Judge Landises. If the people should, in some way, make these corrupt and prejudiced judicial officers feel their indignation, good might result. As matters now stand, a vast majority of our judicial officers are losing caste with the people. The honest, fearless judge and the unpurchasable prosecuting attorney, are somewhat of the oasis in a desert character, and entirely too scarce for the perpetuity of the doctrine of "Equality for all and special privileges for none."

### BOQUETS FOR THE COUNTRY PRESS.

THE MEETING of the Oregon newspapermen in Portland last week, was purely a business meeting, at which time the betterment of country newspaper was the central theme, and was not for the purpose as has been stated, to agree upon a plan by which prospective candidates for office could be held up and be made to pay large campaign fees.

No, no! This was not the purpose of the convention of country editors. Not at all. The purpose was to devise some plan or agreement by which the country paper should get what is justly due it, to place it upon the plane or basis which it justly merits.

Of course every speaker, not an active newspaperman, indulged in throwing many boquets figuratively to the country paper, and placed the country press on so high a pinnacle of fame and power, that, we listening pencil-pushers, felt quite puffed up. We noticed some of the aforesaid pencil-pushers unbuttoning their vests, and even the top button of their pants to give themselves room to take in the liberal doses of taffy that was being administered. Yet with all the chaff there was now and then a grain of real wisdom which will be of profit to the country editor. There is not a doubt but what the country paper is of more general benefit to its immediate community than any other factor in its home town. It is continually working for the betterment of its home town and community, commends virtue and condemns vice, is the medium through which the influence of men who work for the welfare of the public reach the people. It tells the story of births, weddings; of sickness and death. Oftentimes it is made to give praise to the departed through obituary mention, that is not merited; for it is expected that it shall speak only of one's good qualities, and to say nothing of his evil ones.

Nor does the country newspaper receive the patronage that it deserves. Men refuse its patronage because they do not like the editor; or the way he does; or because he will not let them have the paper at half-price; or if by some hook or crook his visit to a neighboring town is not noted, the fat is in the fire then sure enough.

As a matter of fact, every citizen in a community, should patronize his home paper. Whether he knows it or not, he participates in every benefit that the paper is able to bring to the community. If, by agitation the paper causes a new industry to spring up, every citizen in the community reaps a benefit. He then, (the man who refuses to take his home paper) is in the position of getting something for nothing. He is enjoying the fruits of the editors labor without paying for it. Nor are these individuals above reading the copy of the home paper that his neighbor pays for.

Another feature—the delinquent subscriber was discussed somewhat. The consensus of opinion was that the man who takes his home paper and neglects to pay for it, is a worse man than he who borrows his neighbor's paper. He knows or believes the editor will not sue him for the bill, because of the smallness of the account, and, after taking the paper two or three years, refuses to take it from the post-office, or, mayhap, removes elsewhere and neglects to inform the newspaperman where. Can the editor be blamed, should he be called upon to write an obituary for such an one if he tells the truth?

But the vast majority of the readers of the NEWS are not of this class. They are high spirited, prompt paying patrons, and are willing that the NEWS editor shall live, as well as themselves.

Taking the Oregon Newspapermen as a whole, they are a bright jovial crowd, who enjoy meeting each other and who would not discredit any state in which they might work and live.

Secretary Taft seems to have been fortunate in his selection of a press agent. The aforesaid press agent is remarkable for his industry. He is determined that the big secretary shall become a familiar personage in every household in the nation. There is just a bare possibility, however, that this matter may be overdone. The continual sounding of the secretary's praise so long before the opening of the campaign, is apt to become somewhat stale in the minds of many people before election, if it does not before the assembling of the Republican convention, next June.

### LET US POPULATE OREGON.

PORTLAND, ORE., Feb. 20th, 1908.

Every property holder and every citizen of the state of Oregon is indebted to the newspaper, the commercial bodies, the schools and the business men for conducting an advertising campaign through 1907, which brought 27,215 people to this state as a result of the colonist rate in March and April, September, and October.

No greater return has ever been achieved as a result of community organization and co-operative advertising. This record of 27,215 people for every day for 120 days is almost without a parallel in the history of immigration effort anywhere in this country. During the same months of 1906, the colonist rates brought 10,214, showing the unprecedented increase of 6,931, or in round figures 50 per cent.

The colonist rates go into effect again on March 1, and continue until April 30, and the same energetic campaign can be carried on in 1908, even this large influx of new people can be increased, and it is certainly worth while.

The colonist rates were the central feature around which the seventy-six bodies composing the Oregon Development League carried on their campaign, and the chief credit for this result is given to the newspapers, to whom it belongs.

The direct benefit of the colonist rate is that it brings people to every section, and builds up the country around all the towns rather than increasing the population of the larger cities. And it has been conclusively proven that immigration comes to communities in direct proportion to the effort expended by them.

During the winter months, January and February particularly, the farmer in the great Middle West (from whence comes our greatest immigration) does his greatest reading, and we want to be sure that he reads the story of Oregon. During the past year more than five million copies of printed matter were circulated from this state, and to all of these the special rate has been prominent.

It has been the constant effort of the Portland Commercial Club in its correspondence throughout the state to impress upon all the people of Oregon that this low fare applies to all points the same as to Portland, and it is all advertising this fact has been emphasized.

Immediate organization should be commenced everywhere by the commercial bodies and through the schools. Oregon needs no one thing more than additional population.

Present rates are \$50 from Kansas City, St. Paul and all the Middle West; \$35 from St. Louis and important points in the Mississippi Valley; \$38 from Chicago; \$55 from New York; and a proportionate rate from every portion of the United States. The rate is \$2.50 less to Unatilla and all points east.

The Oregon Free Association closed Saturday night one of the most profitable meetings in its history.

Never were better apples displayed than those shown at the "All Oregon Fruit Show" last week.

### A GROTESQUE ABSURDITY.

There are phases of our economic life in which, as a people, we are absurd. We are absurd as to border on the grotesque. Here is the infantile United States steel corporation, struggling along, as it were, for existence. It is selling American made tin plate bars to Wales buyers for one third less than American buyers. The bars are laid down in Swansea for \$21.90 per ton. The freight from Pittsburg is \$4.10, making the price to the Wales buyers \$17.80 from Pittsburg. For the same goods, manufactured in the same mills by the same corporation, the American buyer pays \$29 per ton. What makes the case more interesting as well as more absurd, is that the Welsh corporation is "protected" by a tariff duty of \$6.72 per ton on tin plate bars. With this duty and \$4.10 freight and differential, the foreign manufacturer of tin bars is kept out of the American market and the "infantile" trust is enabled to collect \$29 from the American consumer for goods that it sells to the foreigner for \$17.80.

It is an all around happy arrangement for the trust. It suggests that if there is a profit in the lower price, what a lovely velvet there must be for a captain of the steel industry in the higher figures paid by the American consumer of its output. It recalls the episode wherein Congressman Dalzell, when urged by its author to report from his committee a bill pruning the duties on certain steel products said, in effect, "Whenever the United States steel corporation withdraws its objections, your bill will be reported." It ought to point the Democratic party a living lesson upon which to enter the approaching campaign thrice armed. Finally, in its absurdity, it suggests that were the fiscal affairs of the country managed by a congress of ordinary American school boys it would be better done. They could not do worse.—Oregon Sunday Journal.

Hickory Bark Cough Remedy, made by the Hickory Bark Remedy Co., of Salem, Ore., guaranteed to be pure—guaranteed to cure your cold or money refunded. Guaranteed to make a friend of you. For sale by E. C. Peery, Scio, Ore., and first-class dealers everywhere.

## OUR 5TH ANNUAL CLEARANCE SALE!

THE SALE THAT PLEASURES THE PEOPLE

A Few of the Special Bargains Offered This Week at Wesely & Cains'

\$2.25 11x4 Blankets	\$1.90
75c. 10x4 Blankets	.59
Ladies' Coats	7.68
Ladies Coats	3.95
Worth \$12.00	
\$1.25 Underskirt	.98
Mens' Overcoats	4.70
Worth \$6.00	
Mens' Overcoats	9.65
Worth \$11.50	
Boys' Overcoats	4.90
Worth \$6.50	
\$1.75 Mens' Duck Coats	1.38
\$1.24 Boys' Duck Coats	.98

Sale Closes Saturday Feb. 1, 1908

Regular price charged for goods sold on time

## Wesely & Cain

OFFICERS  
PRESIDENT, W. F. GILL  
SECRETARY, C. A. WARNER

DIRECTORS  
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We do a General Custom Milling Business. Flour and Feed on Sale. Wheat Bought and Exchanged for Flour. We are in the Field for Business and Will Treat You Right

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Hacks connect with all trains both at West Scio and Munkers.

Our rigs are first-class and our horses good drivers. Prices reasonable.

If you want to keep abreast the times, or if you want to keep in touch with the trend of political events in county, state and national campaigns, subscribe now for THE SANTIAM NEWS. Only 75 cents to

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