

The Santiam News

POLITICALLY INDEPENDENT

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T. L. DUGGER
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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Special obituary notices, per line03
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Display ads, to be changed weekly if desired, one column wide each insertion, per inch 15
Business locals per line first insertion, 10 lines05
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Long time standing ads, contracts made on application.

PUBLIC OWNERSHIP.



HEREVER municipal ownership has been fairly and honestly tried, it has proven successful. That is to say, it has furnished public service to the public at a less cost, than when the same service was conducted by private parties. Of course, if a municipal public service is placed in the hands of dishonest, grafting and possibly, incompetent officials, it is sure to prove a failure.

San Francisco, which is, for recent years only another name for graft, has voted to municipalize, at least, a portion of her street car service. If the newly elected officers of that city prove honest and efficient, and capable men are placed in charge of this publicly owned line, the experiment is sure to prove a success. It is to be hoped that Mayor McCarthy, the newly elected mayor and leader of the labor party, will make good and live up to his promise of giving San Francisco the best government she ever had. If so, and the municipally owned and operated car line is undertaken during his administration, the San Franciscans will not regret their new venture.

Municipal ownership of public utilities often prove failures. Why? Because they are placed under the management of men who are interested in making them failures. If men, who are placed in charge of these public functions, would use the same degree of skill and would be as honest and trustworthy as would be required of them if serving private parties, there would be no doubt of success.

The late E. H. Harriman was an eminent success as a railroad organizer and manipulator. He made money for the stockholders of the properties which he controlled. Could he not have been just as successful, if the people of the entire United States had been his stockholders instead of the few who were?

Portland has a municipally owned water system. Nevertheless the system has been managed by men unfriendly to municipal ownership, that city has had better water and at less cost to the individual user, than when the service was owned and operated by private parties.

We now cite matters nearer home. For a number of years Scio has owned and operated, both her light and water systems. When they were in private hands, a 16-candle power light cost the user \$1 per month. The city now furnishes 3 16-candle power lights for the same cost. Under private ownership, water cost users \$1.50 per fact. Now the user is required to pay but \$1 per month for the same service. Under private management, street lights and water cost the city \$75 per month. Under municipal ownership they are absolutely free. Under private ownership not more than one-half the city was covered; now the entire city is served. One year ago, our entire water and light system was rebuilt. Larger mains were installed and were so distributed that the entire city now has water protection in case of fire. The cost of this improvement was but a little over \$5000. Private users of water and lights, even at the lesser rates now given, will extinguish this debt in a few years, yet pay the expense of operating and maintaining the plants. Of course Scio is but a small town and but a small expense, comparatively, is required to furnish lights and water. But what is true of Scio in a small way can be true of other cities in a larger way, if the public officials will be as honest as ours has been.

Another home illustration: A few years ago, the Pacific States Telephone company covered this city and country,

The charge to patrons was, \$1.50 to a city business house and \$1.00 to residences, per month. Farmers constructed their own lines and were charged 50 per month for the use of a phone and central connection. Now the people own the whole business, both in town and country, the cost is only about 25 per month and the service is infinitely better than when under the Pacific States company.

A further essay in public ownership, will likely be undertaken by our citizens, during the present year. A motor railway line has been surveyed from Scio to Munkers, the right of way secured and, later on, the problem of constructing the line will be worked out.

The point we wish to emphasize is, whenever public ownership is undertaken in the right spirit and the managers thereof are honest and careful, it is always a success. The public, also as a rule, is better served.

The News believes that if the entire railway service was publicly owned and as efficiently managed as at the present time by private parties, the cost of freight hauling could be reduced one-half, yet pay employes a better wage than they are now receiving. But all publicly owned utilities, to be successful, must be placed under the management of men who are personally interested in making them a success. Men who desire them to be failures, if entrusted with their management, will surely bring that result about.

SHOULD BE THE PROSECUTOR.

PECULIAR condition prevails in the congressional investigation of the Department of the Interior, now just commencing. Usually the U. S. Attorney General appears before the courts as prosecutor, for most offences of which he must take cognizance against the government when, of course, he or his representative, is the proper prosecutor. Certainly, if the government should be the defendant in a suit at law, the Attorney General would conduct the defense.

But in the investigation referred to, if there is any offense at all, it is against the government. Yet, in this congressional investigation, Attorney General Wickersham appears in the roll of defender. Secretary Ballinger, of the Department of the Interior, is accused by ex-Forester Pinchot, of attempting to allow fraudulent claims to coal lands in Alaska to go to patent. For presuming to accuse his superior in office of wrong doing, Forester Pinchot and two or three of his subordinates have been dismissed from office. Until the matter is thoroughly investigated, the public cannot know the truth about the affair. But the peculiarity as above referred to is the fact that Attorney General Wickersham should appear as the defender of Secretary Ballinger, when he draws a salary for looking after the interests of the government. If Secretary Ballinger is to be placed upon trial, which will be practically true in this investigation, the people are paying General Wickersham to look after their interests and not to defend Secretary Ballinger. In no case should the Attorney General defend another member of the government's official family, when he is even, indirectly, accused of an offense against the government.

The charges of Pinchot and Glavis may not be true, or they may not be able to establish the truth thereof. The investigation may be intended for the purpose of administering a coating of whitewash upon Secretary Ballinger. But Pinchot and Glavis must have had what they considered conclusive evidence of Secretary Ballinger's wrongdoing, else they would not have made the charges. Surely they would not have, figuratively, butted their heads against a stone wall? They are not such fools as to undertake such a brazen bunco game as this would be, unless there was some foundation upon which to found the supposed facts.

Forester Pinchot is now a private citizen. He is under no obligations to hold back any information of which he may be possessed, when he is called before the committee. Nay, more, he will be justified in appearing before the committee as a prosecutor; for his character as a gentleman for truth and veracity has been assailed by a personage of so great importance as the President of the United States.

President Taft should be given the credit of wishing to know the exact truth about the matter, in demanding that the charges against his Secretary shall be investigated. If Secretary Ballinger has violated the law, the President should know about it. If Secretary Ballinger is guilty as charged, he has as much brass as a public land thief to demand an investigation. If he expects a whitewash, he is liable to be mistaken in his calculation. If he is absolutely innocent of wrongdoing then he is pursuing the only course that an honest man could.

If we suppose that Messrs. Pinchot and Glavis had reasonable grounds for their action, it looks as if Secretary Ballinger had fallen down in his calculations.

Vice President Sherman and Speaker Cannon are, undoubtedly, friends of Secretary Ballinger. If they had appointed the congressional committee, a

whitewash could be easily managed. They would have appointed friends of the Secretary to investigate him. Vice President Sherman appointed the Senate committee, but the insurgent Republicans and Democrats in the House combined and took the naming of the House members of the committee out of Speaker Cannon's hands. So now we may expect that the matter will be probed to the bottom and the truth ascertained. This is what the people desire to know—the truth. But it does not look just as it should to see Attorney General Wickersham defending a man accused of wronging the government.

Ex-Congressman Binger Hermann's trial is now on in Portland. Four or five years ago, he was indicted by Government Prosecutor Heney. Mr. Heney has been unable to try the case before this time, nor has Mr. Hermann appeared to be over anxious to be tried. Whatever the result of the trial may be, a vast majority of the people of Oregon, think Hermann is guilty. Mr. Hermann is a thrifty lad and this is not the first time he has sought to make money through the knowledge his official position afforded him. When he was a land officer, at Roseburg, he acquired some 6000 acres of timber land, by violating a provision of law. At least he was dismissed from the office when his term had but half expired. So it is quite probable that he was a party to the Blue Mountain steal and would get a handsome rake off if the scheme succeeded. But the scheme fell through in the act of burning and Binger lost his official head at Washington D. C., because of his supposed knowledge of the steal. Whether he is guilty or not, the News hopes the entire truth may be developed.

The Albany Herald has again changed hands. That paper has had more owners since its establishment some twenty-five years ago, than any other newspaper in the valley. Rev. E. L. Jones, who is said to be a talented young man, is the reputed new owner. We wish the Herald, under the new management, success. There is a splendid opportunity now to make a good newspaper of the Herald and we hope Bro. Jones will bring it to the front in good shape. The News man has a sort of old time affection for the Herald, because of being its field man, many years ago. So brother, here is our best of welcome into the ranks of Linn County newspaperdom.

Some of our correspondents fail to send in their news items until it reaches this office on Thursday. As a result, their items must lie over until the following week. Matter for publication should reach this office not later than Tuesday.

Next summer when the proposed advisory assembly gets busy, the promoters thereof will awaken to the fact that only the politicians and would-be political-bosses, have been pushing the idea forward; for these only and an occasional office-seeker will be in attendance.

The determination of the city council to require a license for keeping dogs in town, should result in quite a revenue, or a decimation of the worthless canines which, sometimes, almost block the sidewalks.

If Dr. Cook ever found the North Pole he has, evidently, lost it again and with it his reputation as a man of truth and veracity.

When it commenced raining, last Thursday, one could see a smile on the face of everyone he would meet.

City Council Proceedings.

The new city council met in its first business session, on Thursday evening of last week. Those present were Mayor H. M. Myer; Recorder E. D. Myers; Marshal I. N. Weddle; Councilmen R. M. Cain, Perry Bilyeu, N. I. Morrison, W. E. Arnold, J. A. Bilyeu and J. L. Calavan.

Mayor Myer appointed the following standing committee:

Streets and public property—Perry Bilyeu, W. E. Arnold and W. A. Ewing.

Fire, light and water—J. A. Bilyeu, W. A. Ewing.

Ways and means—R. M. Cain, J. L. Calavan and W. E. Arnold.

Accounts and Current Expenses—N. I. Morrison, J. A. Bilyeu and W. A. Ewing.

Ordinances—W. E. Arnold, J. L. Calavan and Perry Bilyeu.

Dr. A. G. Prill was elected health officer.

Marshal Weddle was ordered to collect dog licenses immediately.

The following bills against the city were audited and ordered paid: Scio Livery Stable \$8.50; Scio Milling Co. \$45.00; Albany Iron Works \$48.70.

A. E. Randall failing to appear to qualify as councilman, W. A. Ewing was elected to fill the vacancy.

Our Big Education Sale Doing Things to Prices



Come and help carry the Goods away

You will make money by attending this sale whether you buy from us or not. You will have to buy from some other firm sooner or later and pay more.

An assortment of American shirting in light colors, to go at per yard 3 1/2c	Ladies union suits, regular 75 cent values, your choice 38c
Children's underwear, 35 cent value, all sizes, your choice 22 1/2c	An assortment of boys suits, ages 10, 11 and 12 years, \$6 and \$7 values, your choice \$3.90
Mens' wool fleeced underwear, 60 cent value, sale price 43c	10 spools of machine thread for 25c
Ladies short coats, (not this years style) \$5 to \$10 values, your choice \$1.00	20c and 25c dress ginghams, your choice per yard 13c
Ladies and Misses long coats, dust and rain proof, \$5.00 values, your choice during this sale \$2.50	Mens high top shoes, \$6 and \$7 values, 12 and 15 inch tops your choice \$4.85
Mens extra good work coats at 95c	An assortment of mens and boys hi top shoes, regular \$4.00 and \$4.50 values, your choice for \$2.75

Mens Overcoats

\$8.50 coat for \$4.85	\$13.50 coat at \$8.75
\$12.00 coat at \$6.90	\$14.50 coat at \$9.85

The above is just a few of our prices

Everything in the Store is on SALE

Sale Closes Saturday January 22

Wesely & Cain
OUR MOTTO
One Price to All

Sale Closes Saturday January 22

The News will be glad to supply a copy of the paper free, regularly, to any one who will supply items of news weekly from any and all of the surrounding neighborhoods. Some one in every neighborhood should be willing to take up this work for the interests of themselves and neighbors.

Notice of Final Settlement
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned administrator of the estate of William T. Hickman, deceased, has filed in the county court of Linn county, Oregon, his final account as such administrator of said estate, and that Monday, the seventeenth day of January, 1910, at the hour of 9 o'clock A. M. has been fixed by said court as the time for hearing of objections to said report and the settlement thereof.
R. SHELTON, Administrator.
C. C. BRYANT, Attorney.

WEATHERFORD & WYATT
Attorneys-at-Law
Office in Blumberg Block
ALBANY : : : OREGON

A. G. PRILL, M. D.
Physician & Surgeon
Telephone, Exchange No. 11
SCIO : : : OREGON

The Best Place in Portland to Eat is at
Pap's Coffee House
at West end of the Morrison Street bridge.
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(Successor to Riner Bros.)
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Large Sample Rooms for Commercial Travelers
UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT
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GRANT FETTL, Prop.
ALBANY - - - OREGON
For Anythin in HARNESS or SADDLES See
SHANK'S
The Harness Maker
Prices Right Workmanship First-class
SHELburn, OREGON

The Scio State Bank
SCIO - - - OREGON
Does a general banking and exchange business. Loans made at current rates and drafts issued on principal cities.

L. H. MONTANYE
Attorney-at-Law
Notary Public and Solicitor of Patents and Pensions.
Office, 232 West 2nd St., Albany, Ore.

J. L. CALAVAN D. M. MCKNIGHT
SCIO LIVERY & FEED STABLES
CALAVAN & MCKNIGHT, Prop's.
Hacks connect with all trains both at West Scio and Munkers. Our rigs our first class and our horses good drivers. Prices reasonable.

Vetch Straw For Sale
I have 20 tons of vetch straw, which is equal to or better than cheat hay, at \$10 per ton.
S. W. GAINES, Santiam Farm

DR. W. R. BILYEU
DENTIST
OVER WOODWORTH'S DRUG STORE
BOTH PHONES
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C. C. BRYANT
ATTORNEY AT LAW
CUSICK BLOCK
ALBANY - - - OREGON

R. SHELTON
Real Estate Notary Public
Administrator of Estates
Loans Negotiated, Abstracts Obtained and Examined
SCIO - - - OREGON

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