

The Santiam News

Politically Independent

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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

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One year, at end of year	1 50
One year, at end of 2 years	1 75
One year, at end of 3 years	2 00
Six months in advance	75
Three months in advance	50
Single copy in wrapper	5c

ADVERTISING RATES:

Car of thanks	5c
Special obituary notices, per line	6c
Extended wedding comments, per line	6c
Display ads, to be changed weekly if desired, one column wide each insertion, per inch	1c
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Each subsequent insertion per line	6c
Long time standing ads, contracts made on application.	

LIARS, AND THEN SOME

THE STATEMENT THAT "all men are liars" is, probably, as true as anything ever pronounced by the lips of man. All men seem to have a disposition to overstate any matter in which they are interested. The statement may be overgood or over bad, just as may suit the convenience or interest of the individual. If the pure unadulterated truth is given, without it being colored by the opinion of the relator, it is an exception to almost the general rule.

This element of the human character, even participates in the religions of the world. Men think it is not a sin to lie for Christ's sake. In fact most religions were established, in a large measure, through deception and fraud and the churches, of the present day, do not hesitate to bolster themselves up by fraud and misrepresentation. And when we come to examine the field of politics, we find it honeycombed with deception. Lying in politics, is reduced to a science. In dealing among different nations and peoples, it is called "diplomacy." In fact when a statesman is said to be a first-class diplomat, the word "liar" would be just as suitable to use. The diplomat is simply a man well trained in the art of deception—one who is capable of covering up and concealing his real purpose. In our domestic politics, politicians, political orators, or candidates for office, are expected to be liars, as a matter of course. They do not hesitate to magnify matters to an untruthful degree, to further their own interests, nor to decry minimize or misconstrue the motive of their opposing party or candidates.

In our business and social relations, lying and deception is a very common stock in trade. We do not, many of us, not only hesitate to lie about and misrepresent ourselves, but are willing to hand out large quantities of the same dope about our neighbors. Men at their clubs, and women at their teas and social gatherings, do not hesitate to take up and pull to pieces the character of a neighbor whom they may dislike; never failing to magnify his or her faults to a degree, amounting to a downright lie.

In our business relations, men are expected to lie. It is looked upon as a legitimate feature of business. The farmer, when offering his produce for sale, will place the largest and most perfect apples or potatoes at the top of the box. He does not hesitate to place eggs, found in the stolen nest and which he would not use himself, in the basket which he takes to the store. He will sell animals for beef or pork, which he would not use himself, to be butchered and sold to his city neighbors. He will send to the creamery or condensery, cans of milk or cream, from which he may have rescued the pet kitten, etc. If he sells a horse or cow, three or four years may be safely added to the age he gives his animal. If he delivers a cord of wood it is, always, a safe plan for the purchaser to measure it; or if a load of hay, to weigh it. The merchant will sell goods, which he knows to be half cotton as an all-wool-and-a-yard-wide and positively at a price below cost; when he knows he is making a good profit. Should he not have the article you ask for, he will try to sell you something else "just as good" when he knows it to be inferior. The real estate agent is generally looked upon as a constitutional liar. It is his nature to misrepresent the land he tries to sell you. He is, probably, not to blame, for his disposition to lie is hereditary. That is to say, if his father had been a real estate agent and his mother a milliner.

But the most colossal liar of the bunch, is the newspaper man. He, not only lies about his circulation and the authors of certain libelous articles, but will lie for other people. Every paid advertisement he carries, is either a lie outright, or is one by implication. He does not dare tell the unvarnished truth about his subscribers, or he would, necessarily, be compelled to employ a body guard. He must, perforce, lie about both the living and the dead. Should he say in public print what is generally known to be a fact about a citizen, to say the least, his patronage would suffer, even if he was not subjected to bodily injury for his audacity. The newspaper man is supposed to speak nicely about every body in the columns of his paper; for the absolute truth, by custom, is inhibited.

Perhaps a certain amount of lying, especially of the white-lie harmless kind, is pardonable on the part of everyone. But whenever lying is carried to the extent of personal injury to the lied about, or to the personal financial injury of the deceived, then does lying become reprehensible. The truth, in many instances, is unpleasant to hear. It may humiliate us and cause us mental anguish when the truth lays bare things we would have remain secret, concerning ourselves or those we love. There are times and circumstances, when the bruited of the truth to the world, would result in harm. A suppression of the truth, when character is at stake, is many times advisable and meritorious. But a lie, no matter how meritorious its purpose may be, is never excusable and generally results in harm, in the end. If we cannot speak the truth, silence is golden.

WHY NOT GOOD ROADS NOW?

WE SUPPOSE that every citizen of Linn county, or of Oregon for that matter, would like to see all of our public highways, hard-surfaced and placed in a condition which would make them useable during our wet winters as well as in our dry summers. Every farmer would like to market his farm products at the time when he can sell at the highest price. Every consumer of farm products would like to be able to buy them in winter as reasonably, all things considered, as in the summer. There is but one way in which both the producer and consumer can be benefitted. This can be accomplished, if we make our roads in a condition so that they can be used for freight purposes at all times of the year. To do this means a large expenditure of money—more than can be expended in two or three years, without an oppressive effect upon the tax payer.

The NEWS believes that the bonding plan will reach this result.

Suppose Linn county is bonded for \$2,000,000. The interest on this sum will amount to about, at 6 per cent., \$120,000. We are now paying annually more than that sum in general and special road taxes. Some districts will reach more than that sum. If \$2,000,000 should be placed at the disposal of our county court, and directed by a skilled road builder, some 500 or 600 miles of road could be placed in first-class condition. We want such roads—roads that farmers can market their products at any time of the year. If farmers can market their grain whenever the price suits them, providing the roads are such that they can make delivery, the saving of storage on grain or other products is not inconsiderable. Then think what the saving in teams, vehicles, etc., would be and the doubling of the capacity of teams.

Linn county expends annually something over \$100,000 in road building. This expenditure has been made for several years and will be continued indefinitely.

Farmers, this thought is worth considering. If first-class roads can be had as soon as they can be builded, so that you can keep your products at home until the market suits, you can, undoubtedly, get a better price for your grain, hay, potatoes and other products. Hay harvest is now just at hand. A large amount of hay will be on the market at once. Of course, because of this fact, the price will be low. If winter delivery could be made and not too much placed on the market at one time, a higher average price would result. What is true of hay, is true of any other product.

There is another source of profit if all-the-year-round roads existed. Every acre of farm land would be enhanced. Why? Because the products could be delivered at the markets cheaper. An average load for a team now, is not more than two tons. If good roads would enable the team to haul double this amount, would not the product be delivered at the market at half the cost?

Farmers, this matter is worth considering. You will reap greater benefit from good roads than anybody. The NEWS is, as a rule, opposed to bonding or mortgaging the future; but it believes that the present generation should have the benefit of a first-class highway, as well as the generations of the future. Place our roads in a good permanent condition at a cost of \$3000 to \$4000 per mile and they will serve the present as well as the future.

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NEED

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OUR abstracts are correct and complete.

Linn County Abstract Co.
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