

The Santiam News.

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PORTLAND NEWS LETTER

Logged-Off Land Congress will be Beneficial to Whole State—Ground Broken for Reed College

Portland, Or. Jan. 16 (Special).—One of the important conferences of the new year will be a logged-off land congress, to be held in Portland within the next two months. This will be the most exhaustive study of the subject ever held and will be under the auspices of the Oregon Development League. The Portland headquarters is making the arrangements.

Statistics are now being collected that will be a logged-off land census, showing the extent of such lands in each county. These figures will be used in attracting settlers to these idle areas. Another purpose of the coming congress is to teach the best methods of clearing the land of stumps and making it productive. The latest investigations along this line will be given for the benefit of settlers and the best method of removing stumps thoroughly explained. It is believed this meeting will be of state-wide benefit.

Medford will welcome mining men of the Northwest on February 3 and 4, when the Southern Oregon Mining Congress will be held. Mining experts will give talks and practical miners will participate in the discussions. Demonstrations of gold-saving machinery will be made.

Klamath County is going in for agricultural education in its schools. A tract of 86 acres has been bought and an experiment station will be established where students will practice agricultural methods under the direction of an expert who will be secured from the Oregon Agricultural College.

Hearings before a board appointed from the reclamation service on the much-mooted question of the extension of the Umatilla project, will begin January 24. The board will sit in Herndon, Pendleton and Tanfield to hear objections made by the various sections in regard to sources of water supply for carrying out the proposed work and after getting all possible information on the subject, the board will make recommendations to Secretary Fisher of the interior department.

Railroad mileage in Oregon has increased at a remarkable rate the past few years and the outlook for 1912 is most encouraging. According to the report of the State Railroad Commission, there were 2382 miles of railways in Oregon at the end of June 1910. By the end of December, 1911 this had grown to 2883 miles.

Forest supervisors, the heads of 26 national forests of the Pacific Northwest and Alaska, will meet in Portland Jan. 22 for a week's conference on the administration of lands under their jurisdiction. Chief Forester Graves of Washington, D. C. will give addresses.

After five years of preparation, ground was broken the past week for the first building of Reed College, the new \$3,000,000, University to be built at Portland. The college will open next September. It is expected to rank with the best similar institutions in the country.

Portland hotels are being swamped with reservations for Elks week next July, when the Grand Lodge reunion will be held. Every section of the country is represented and the Pacific Coast lodges will send very large delegations. San Francisco expects to have 1,000 delegates while the Willamette Valley lodges will turn out 1600 Elks. Puget sound cities have asked for 600 rooms at local hotels.

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LURE OF THE LAW.

The Craze For Litigation Is America's Most Costly Folly.

If one were asked to name the costliest folly known in this country he would not be far from the mark if he should say it was the American craze for litigation.

In some communities, especially the small ones in rural districts, a man's importance seems to be measured by the number of lawsuits he has on hand, and he who has none is often regarded as a person of slight consequence.

But the habit of going to law is not confined to small neighborhoods nor to persons of trifling affairs, as a single instance will show. There is now in process of settlement in a neighboring state the estate of a man which at the time of his death was valued at \$1,000,000. Rival claimants to the property engaged in litigation, which has extended over a period of several years, and now, as the end approaches, it is said the estate has dwindled to about \$23,000.

Manifestly the parties to this litigation have made a heavy investment in experience; but, unhappily for them, it is not what financiers call a "liquid asset."—Docket.

MOONS OF THE UNIVERSE.

Besides Our Own Luna Twenty-five Others Are Known to Exist.

There are in all twenty-five moons besides our queen of night, Mars having two, Jupiter eight, Saturn ten, Uranus four and Neptune one, says the Philadelphia Public Ledger. Of course new lunar additions are likely to be discovered at any time, although it is improbable that Mercury and Venus have any satellites or that Mars has more than two.

The two known moons of Mars are, indeed, very minute, neither being over fifty miles in diameter. On the other hand, Jupiter's first four satellites, as well as Ganymede, are each larger than Queen Luna, Ganymede having a diameter of about 3,550 miles. Titania of Saturn possesses a diameter approximating 3,000 miles, while that of Neptune's sole satellite is about 2,000 miles.

As respects our own moon, Queen Luna has only one-fourth the size and one-eighth the weight of our earth. Luna's distance from us varies a good deal, from 221,000 miles to 252,000 miles. Her mean or average distance is about 238,000 miles.

Ate With Tears In His Eyes.

On one occasion General Scott attended a banquet where all the states of the Union were represented by a dish in some way characteristic of each commonwealth. Pennsylvania was represented by a bowl of sauerkraut, and in speaking of the fact the next morning the general remarked, "I partook of it with tears in my eyes." This fondness of Scott for the good things of the table, taken in conjunction with the famous "hasty plate of soup" incident, gave point to the name of "Marshal Turenne," with which he was once saluted by the Rev. Dr. Smith Payne, an inveterate punster. It was Dr. Payne who once exclaimed after hearing Ole Bull play, "If honorary degrees were conferred upon musicians Ole Bull would be fiddle D. D."—Marian Gouverneur in "As I Remember."

Blackjacks.

The earliest drinking vessels for wines and ales were those made from skins of animals, and these vessels still retain their popularity in the east and on the continent. In England these vessels were made of carefully tanned hides which were unbreakable and possessed everlasting properties. The blackjacks, famed in song and story, were shaped like pitchers and were fashioned from one large piece of leather, which was curled in the necessary manner. Pitch was smeared over the inside. These old blackjacks gave their name to the heavy riding boots worn by cavaliers, which came to be called jackboots. Owing to the popularity of the blackjacks the French declared that the English drank out of their boots.—London Globe.

A Great Storm.

Thirty thousand persons perished in India Oct. 11, 1737, from the effects of a great storm.

The Writing Mania.

The itch for scribbling is proverbially itching in every slave of the pen.—Hall Caine.

THE ROAD QUESTION AGAIN

Editor Santiam News:—

In your issue of January 11 someone signing himself "Jordanite" attempts to reply to a former communication of "A Taxpayer." In reply to Mr. Jordanite's article A Taxpayer replies again.

In regard to Dist. 25 and the action of the court and appointment of supervisors for said district, we know nothing of its affairs. If what he states is true, it only adds evidence to the fact that the honorable county court does not treat all districts alike. We cannot see any particular difference whether we vote for a supervisor or send in a petition to the court signed by 75 per cent of the taxpayers asking them to honor our choice by petition. Can you Mr. Jordanite?

Now Mr. Jordanite, honestly, with your own idea of justice, could you think it a square deal, if for years and years your supervisor would take all the tax levy of your district and put it on the roads in one locality to the neglect of the rest of the district. Perhaps if the money and work done was spent on the roads passing to and from your residence, you would think from purely selfish motives that your supervisor was the embodiment of perfection. But how about your neighbors, who for years and years went down in their jeans, dug up their hard earned money and sent it all go on a road that the most of the people in the district seldom travel.

We offered no apology, neither do we feel any disgrace in not voting a tax in road district No. 16, but we do feel that we are lovers of justice.

We have tried the donation and subscription plan. This was not a square deal between man and man. Some would give 10 days work with team, others only one. Our supervisor would hire the man who only subscribed one day's work and turn down those who had subscribed five to ten times as much, hiring some who did not donate a thing. Others in the district did nothing. This was not fair, just or right.

Now I see that your district has voted a 10 mill tax, others from 2 to 5. Now we have no objection to any district levying as much tax as they desire, but is the system just. Do you want to heap upon yourselves an extra tax of 8 mills over and above the district that only levies 2 mills. If the county would make a general levy of 5 or 10 mills so that all would pay the same rate of tax. This seems to me more equitable and just.

Now Mr. Jordanite you may have a special stand in with the court through political or personal favors extended to you. But in the district adjoining 16, two men went personally before the county court asking them if they would honor by appointment the man whom they would select by ballot at their road meeting as their supervisors, and the court said no, said there might be a "frame-up." Where is the chance for a "dark horse" in this.

In conclusion, Bro. Jordanite, you may be supervisor or Dist. 25, I do not know. But would you quit the service of the people who had selected you as their supervisor, to handle their money and work their roads and go into an adjoining district and for \$4 a day, go and work their roads and neglect your own, and then come back when the roads are muddy and ask your own district to do road work when it was almost impossible, and the expense doubled. Would you after completing a certain amount of donation work having \$150 on hand and never expend it on the remaining portion of the road for which it was donated? Would you carry over \$240 and not expend it at all when that amount would have fixed two or three hundred yards of road that is now well nigh impassable.

Yours for justice,
A TAXPAYER.

For Sale

Forty acres 2 1/2 miles N. E. of Scio, no improvements; some good timber; on country road; price \$2000.
R. SHELTON, Scio, Ore.

HIS MEMORY CLEAR.

The Witness Proved to the Lawyer That He Could Remember.

A story is told of an eminent lawyer receiving a severe reprimand from a witness whom he was trying to browbeat. It was an important issue, and in order to save his cause from defeat it was necessary that the lawyer should impeach the witness. He endeavored to do it on the ground of age in the following manner:

"How old are you?" asked the lawyer.

"Seventy-two years," replied the witness.

"Your memory, of course, is not so brilliant and vivid as it was twenty years ago, is it?" asked the lawyer.

"I do not know but it is," answered the witness.

"State some circumstance which occurred, say, twelve years ago," said the lawyer, "and we shall be able to see how well you can remember."

"I repeat to your honor," said the witness, "if I am to be interrogated in this manner, it is insolent!"

"You had better answer the question," replied the judge.

"Yes, sir; state it," said the lawyer.

"Well, sir, if you compel me to do it I will. About twelve years ago you studied in Judge ———'s office, did you not?"

"Yes," answered the lawyer.

"Well, sir, I remember your father coming into my office and saying to me, 'Mr. D., my son is to be examined tomorrow, and I wish you would lend me \$15 to buy him a suit of clothes.' I remember also, sir, that from that day to this he has never paid me that sum. That, sir, I remember as though it were yesterday."

A PROBLEM IN FIGURES.

It Scared the Mathematician, but the Women Solved It.

One day a teacher of mathematics went shopping with his wife. He tagged along listlessly from counter to counter until they came to the dress trimmings department, and there he found something in his line. Said his wife to the saleswoman:

"How wide is that gold spangled black crepe?"

"Three-eighths of a yard," said the girl.

"How much is it a yard?"

"Three dollars."

"Well," said the professor's wife, "how much of three-eighths wide material will it take to put four six-inch strips around a two and three-quarter yard skirt that is seven inches narrower at the knees than it is at the bottom, and how much will it cost?"

At the first mention of those figures the professor's head began to reel, and he reeled still more when his wife and the girl got out pencils and paper and began to do their sum. Presently his wife said:

"Here, dear, you know all about mathematics. Help us solve this problem, won't you?"

But the professor said: "Excuse me, I feel faint; I must get a little fresh air," and indignantly fled.

His wife came home with exactly the amount of material required, and the professor took her word for it that she didn't pay a cent too much.—Philadelphia Ledger.

A Wily Mocking Bird.

A naturalist tells of a droll exhibition of fun evinced by a mocking bird. It had only recently been captured and was placed near another cage in which were two canaries, both excellent singers. The mocking bird at first seemed to be struck dumb by his voluble neighbors; but, as it turned out afterward, he was only biding his time. For several days he remained silent, taking notes, until he had mastered their song, when one day, without even a preliminary rehearsal, he burst out into a canary song in a loud, ringing tone that struck his yellow throated neighbors mute with astonishment. After this it was a favorite amusement of his to drown the voices of the canaries with his own loud notes whenever they attempted to sing.—Detroit Free Press.

A Small Likeness.

Binks (who has given Jinks a cigar)—You'll find, old chap, that is something like a cigar. Jinks (after a few puffs)—By Jove, there is a slight resemblance. What is it?—Royal Magazine.

HELPLESS AT SEA.

Story of Two Ships That Met and Parted in a Wild Storm.

"I suppose you've heard plenty of stories about men being rescued at sea," remarked the captain of a liner plying out of New York, "and for that reason I'm going to tell you a story, for variety's sake, about some men not being rescued at sea. It was one of the worst experiences I ever had since I've been a sailor."

"It was in the middle of a terrible hurricane, and the boat I was on was just barely manageable. All we could do was to keep steering way on her and trust to weather the storm."

"Well, at the very worst of it, when the wind was howling like mad and the waves were almost burying us, we heard a yell from out somewhere on the sea. The next moment we caught sight of a sailing vessel not more than a few hundred yards away, evidently in distress."

"Soon we were so close to her that we could see she had lost one of her masts and was absolutely at the mercy of the storm. We could plainly see her sailors clinging to the rigging or hanging on to whatever hadn't been washed off her decks. What was worse, we could plainly hear them shouting to us for help."

"But there was nothing whatever we could do. You are not a sailor, and perhaps you can't understand what I'm telling you when I say that we simply had to stand there on our boat, listening to those men in their agony, yet we couldn't so much as throw them a rope."

"Why? Because our boat was barely manageable itself, as I told you. We were fighting the storm just as hard as we could. If we had stopped we would have lost steering way and run the risk of being swamped; also we stood an excellent chance of being rammed against that disabled boat and sending ourselves and it to the bottom. As to throwing them a rope, first, we couldn't throw it far enough for them to reach it, and, second, there was the probability of the rope getting tangled in our propeller and spoiling our chances of escape."

"There was nothing—nothing whatever—for us to do. And, I tell you, it was a terrible thing to scout past those poor devils hanging on to that hulk and hear their cries growing fainter and fainter in the distance. I've never forgotten the sound of them."—New York Times.

His Way of Spelling It.

Sir Robert Anderson, K. C. B., was discussing the marriage question.

He quoted the American phrase that "Courtship is bliss and marriage is bluster." American humor, he said, often embodies an exaggerated statement of truth, and that phrase is apt to come true if a man marries a girl because she has a pretty face.

He gave this after honeymoon dialogue:

She—Do you spell "disillusionize" with a "z" or an "s"?

He—I do not.

She—Don't be tiresome! How do you spell it?

He—How do I spell "disillusionize?" I spell it "m-a-r-r-i-e-d!"—London Tit-Bits.

One first scientific thinker was Thales of Miletus, born about 636 B. C. He was the first to attempt a logical solution of material phenomena, without resorting to mythological representations. In other words, Thales was the first man, so far as we know, to try to find out the actual truth concerning the world we live in, its origin, constitution and destiny.

Busily Engaged.

Father—Well, Julia, if I allow young Smithers to marry you will he be willing to work and support you? Julia—Oh, papa, how can he when he has promised to do nothing but think of me all the time?—Pittsburg Press.

BIG FAIR MEETING

Will be Held At Scio, Saturday, January 27, at 10 A. M.—big Basket Dinner

Bring your lunch basket and have the time of your life. There is going to be something doing. Get onto the band wagon and be a booster.

The 1912 fair will be a "humdinger." If you don't know what that means, come to the meeting and find out! If you are from Missouri the ladies will show you.

ENTERTAINED

Thursday afternoon the Ladies Sewing Club met at the home Mrs. R. W. Gal.

Although the weather was very disagreeable most of the new members were present. A dainty luncheon was served by the hostess and a short musical program was an entertaining feature.

The next meeting will be with Mrs. Don McKnight.

Sealed Bids

Sealed bids will be received by the undersigned for 30 cords of sound, live, second growth fir, 4 feet long, and 10 cords of grub-oak 4 feet long; all wood to be delivered on the public school grounds at Scio by August 1, 1912.

Bids must be in the hands of the clerk by 1 p. m., February 1, 1912. The board of directors reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

J. F. WESELY, Clerk.

BASKET SOCIAL

The ladies of Scio will give a basket social next Wednesday evening at Wesley-Cain Hall for the benefit of the Linn County Fair Association. All ladies are urged to bring well filled baskets. A short program will be given and an enjoyable time is assured all who attend. Come one and all, boost for the fair and help swell the bank account.

Chambers & McCune Continue Clearance Sale One More Week

On account of the stormy weather and high water which has prevented so many people from visiting their Great Clearance Sale, Chambers & McCune will continue the sale one more week commencing Monday, Jan. 22, and closing Saturday, Jan. 27.

This has been one of the greatest sales ever held in Albany and people declare they never bought new, clean, up-to-date fall and winter suits, coats, dresses, skirts, hats, furs, underwear, hosiery, sweaters, waists, shoes, blankets, comforts, outing flannel, prints, gingham, fancy and staple dry goods, so cheap in all their lives. No old or out of season goods, everything for winter wear and every price greatly reduced.

Absolutely every ladies' and misses' suit, black plush, carol or mixture coat in the store, no reserve, no exception, every garment at Half Price. Don't miss the last week of this Great Clearance Sale, the stocks are the newest and largest in the Valley and the prices wonderfully reduced. Chambers & McCune offer to pay all expenses to anyone coming to Albany and being disappointed or find anything not as advertised.

Try the News for fine job printing. Prices reasonable.