

Columbia-Register

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY.

HOULTON, OREGON, MAY 12, 1905.

R. H. MITCHELL, Editor and Publisher.
We originate—others imitate.

PEN, PASTE AND SCISSORS.

A block pavement company could find plenty of first class rock at Houlton.

The construction of the Panama canal has progressed to the increase-of-salary stage.

King Alfonso, of Spain, is making a tour of neighboring countries. His near relatives have told him all about the United States.

Secretary Shaw says he is going to reduce the deficit by cutting down the incidental expenses. All right but let him look carefully after the "accidental expense."

Some eminent sailors at Washington, who have seldom been to sea, can not understand how Togo managed to win so handsily with at a naval board of strategy.

The theatrical company organized to exploit Nan Paterson has scored a dismal financial failure. Occasionally the public manages to do the right thing without making any particular fuss about it.

The United States court at Cincinnati has declared the wall paper trust to be an illegal combine. It is to be hoped that the court will be able to make the decision stick better than the wall paper usually does.

The czar says he would rather die than sign an ignominious peace. But if he doesn't sign a peace pact of some kind several hundred thousand other Russians will die. If the czar really loves his "little children" now is the time for him to show it.

President Roosevelt should invite his cabinet to get together. One denounces the idea of protected manufacturers selling their wares cheaper to foreigners than to residents, and another defends it as a sound business policy. Here is an opportunity to do considerable work in the line of pacification.

We have been advised that Saturday July 29, will be designated as Columbia day at the Lewis and Clark Centennial. The regular program is a good one, and in addition there will be a special program including a meeting at the Oregon building, to be addressed by the President of the State Commission and others. It has been suggested that blue badges with the word "Columbia" in gold, be worn. The Administration band has been secured to play for the occasion.

The Portland harbor presents a wartime appearance just now for the e of Uncle Sam's warships are anchored in the river, and the booming of big guns reverberates from the wharves to the grounds of the Lewis and Clark Exposition. The ships at anchor in the harbor, which compose part of the United States Government magnificent display at the Coast Fair, are the protected cruisers Boston and Chicago, and the torpedo destroyer Perry. They remain indefinitely, possibly for the whole Exposition period, and certainly for several weeks.

Leading exponents of various creeds will speak at the Sunday services at Lewis and Clark Exposition, which are held in the Auditorium, at four each Sunday afternoon. The list of those who will preach during the Exposition includes some of the best known divines from all parts of the country, and assures the popularity of the services. On Sunday the admission to the grounds has been reduced from fifty to twenty-five cents. The gates are opened at noon, and the exhibit palaces are open until six o'clock. The amusement features on the Trail are not permitted to run.

The Columbia County exhibit is not what it ought to be, but it is just what the people has made it. They have passively sanctioned the acts of the commissioners in the appointment of the gentleman who has charge of our exhibit and they have accepted without a murmur or protest the little work that has been done. Now it is a well known fact that Columbia County is not prepared to compete with the counties that have had agricultural and horticultural exhibits at the fair. But with a man or woman at the back of our exhibit we can yet have a much better exhibit than we now have, and may in the near future excel all other counties in quality of our products if not in quantity. Any article left at this office or at the Mist office will be taken up to the Fair and placed on exhibition free of charge. Bring in your products and let us show the world what our country produces.

Farming A Leading Industry.

Farming has, is, and will continue to be one of the most profitable branches of industry, where rightly managed and the calling given half a chance. The man who farms it now days must farm it on business principles if he wishes to succeed; the same as the successful merchant, lawyer, doctor or editor.

The writer of this article spent two pleasant weeks of his life not long ago in a German settlement in Peoria, Illinois, where diversified farming was done by gardeners who tilled from 5 to 11 acres, each acre being forced to produce three distinct crops, the last crop grown being cucumbers contracted with the pickling works. And when we consider that freezing weather sets in early in Illinois, how much longer are the seasons in Oregon. These German farmers made as much from five acres of ground as do the farmers around Salem or up in the Polouse country or Eastern Washington from 160 acres.

The principal ingredients necessary to farm it successfully must be born in the make-up of the man. Self reliance is the principal one—that he has the cardinal virtue to keep out of debt. The number of acres he farms can be gaged by his ability to do the work within himself, or with the assistance of extra help in time to garner the crop. Therefore the country around Rainier or in Columbia County offers extra inducements to bright and hard working farmers, who can adopt themselves to the needs of the communities to which they ship, or the markets that buy their surplus products.

The nearness to market and the favorable shipping facilities by boat or rail makes Columbia river farming very desirable; for let it be known that the farmer must be able to take advantage of the rise and fall of the different commodities in an open market, and in order to do this, he must subscribe for a paper that gives a correct market report. Then let him snip his produce in a neat and presentable manner, and he will be a favorite in the eye and estimation of his patrons.

Poultry raising, fruits, dairying and other lines of light farming will pay for years to come, and is a delightful occupation, aside from being able to sell something the year round. The progressive farmer can live independently and be happy. There need be no worry over financial and other matters as does the merchant. No farmer needs to worry over a total failure of his crops in Oregon as does his brothers in Eastern states, where drought, tornadoes and cyclones prevail. All he must do is to hue to the line and keep out of debt.

Upper and Lower Columbia County.

Columbia County is about 80 miles long, or properly speaking, that number of miles along the river, and not far from 45 miles back, extending to the Nehalem river. All old settlers know that the heavy virgin timber is back from the river front, and it is there that the loggers are engaged in cutting it into logs and building railroads to bring these to the river to be rafted and towed to the saw mills.

The country around Scappoose, Warren, Houlton, Deer Island, Goble, Rainier, Mayger, Clatskanie, Marshland and other towns, is settled by farmers who have cleared the lands and opened lovely farms and made comfortable homes. Some have engaged in dairying and mixed farming, while all are prospering. In and around these well to do communities have sprung up saw mills and shingle mills that are consuming the raw material into finished products.

While each section has some one or more industries, Houlton has a large stove factory that employs all the way from 60 to 80 hands, who spend a portion of their wages among the several business houses in the town. So while Houlton is supplied, the same conditions are found at Goble, Rainier, Mayger and Clatskanie. All have one or more enterprises that puts its product into the market, the boats and rail shipment continuing throughout the year, giving employment to numerous willing hands.

Rainier and Clatskanie are favorite towns and have good cause to feel satisfied with existing conditions. What is true of Rainier is true of Clatskanie, when it comes to mills that manufacture the timber into commodities. It is a pay roll that helps a town. It is good roads that brings the farmer to town, who trades with his home merchant. Our merchants and business men are of the live and let live class, selling as cheap or cheaper than the same goods can be purchased in Portland.

The numerous teams that are seen on the streets of Rainier and Clatskanie are loaded with the manufactured product to be shipped, and attest to the correctness of our assertion that the mills are busy at work, both in and outside of the several towns. All is activity and hustle, and there is no excuse for seeing idle men when we take into consideration the many lines or avenues that require extra help that have sprung up, and in which one with a little grit or back bone and push can make himself useful. The advantages to better one's self are much more in evidence here than in eastern states, where everything is overdone—where it is so easy to acquire a little piece of ground and raise something and make a start in life. The scenery, the climate, water, shipping facilities, society, churches and schools are all here. Come and make us your friends, and look us over from one end of the county to the other. The latch string hangs out.

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