

## Tillamook Headlight.

Published every Thursday evening.

W. D. JONES - EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR  
E. T. H. MEERHOLE, ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

### VARIOUS OPINIONS.

We sent postal cards to all our subscribers in this county with the intention of getting the people to express their ideas as to what a county paper should be. The answers to our questions have been filled out in nearly all cases and almost all the cards we sent out have been returned. The answers, with few exceptions, seems to be in good faith, and but few failed to sign their names to the cards. The result is very gratifying to the publisher of this paper, and the answers are quite complimentary to the HEADLIGHT, besides the various opinions expressed will be of great assistance to us in making the paper better than heretofore. Here are the questions with a summary of the results:

*Do you like short stories?*—For this question about half of the answers are "yes," but the expression does not indicate that short stories are desirable in a county paper.

*Do you like continued stories?*—"No," is the answer almost unanimously.

*Do you read "plate matter" or "patent sides"?*—Three-fourths of the answers are "no." Two or three did not know what was meant by the question, and a number answered "I read everything in the paper." Mr. T. B. Handley, who is possessed of a vast fund of general knowledge, says he always reads the plate matter and writes on the margin of his card that he thinks it is better than any selection a country paper can make outside of local news. One man who resides away back in the woods where papers are hard to get, says he reads the plate matter and everything else twice.

*Do you wish County Court proceedings in full?*—They all say "yes," emphatically, and we shall publish them much more fully hereafter.

*Do you read county correspondence?*—"Yes" is the universal answer.

*Do you read advertisements?*—The answers are equally divided between "yes" and "sometimes." A few say "no."

*Do you read any other page but local news page?*—Nearly all say they do, though a few do not.

*What national or city weekly do you prefer?*—Fully one-half of our subscribers name the Oregonian, and a goodly number name the San Francisco Examiner and the New York Tribune. The Call, Detroit Free Press, Toledo Blade, Inter Ocean and New York World are occasionally mentioned. We shall make the best terms possible with the Oregonian and Examiner and shall continue to club with other papers when desired.

*Do you wish your paper stopped when the time for which it is paid expires? Do you think "strictly cash in advance" is a good plan for a country paper?*—About two-thirds of our subscribers say "yes" to those questions, though quite a number of reliable men want their paper sent right along without a break and do not think a cash plan would work. Some say "I will pay as soon as I go to town," and some regard the postal cards as dums. We have the matter under consideration and shall announce soon what course we shall pursue in regard to the payment of subscriptions, and in the mean time we shall insist on cash in advance from every man unless we know him to be perfectly good.

*Do you think paid business locals should be mixed with the news locals?* The answer is "no" almost unanimously, and very emphatic in many cases. Of course this cuts considerable revenue from the newspaper, but we shall keep the separate as much as patrons will require it not could.

*state and national news as you expect from a county newspaper?*—We are glad to hear nearly all say "yes," though two or three individuals evidently expect as much news in the HEADLIGHT as in the Oregonian.

Quite a number did not find room enough on the postals to express their views and they wrote letters further explaining what they expect of a newspaper. Here is one of the letters received:

"God requireth no uncertain action. Those must know, else write not, neither speak nor act. The man who can govern a press, and that which flows from it, hath great chances to instruct almost numberless parts of this great sum—man. And let him take good notice of all that cometh from his great distributor of knowledge. Let him watch every word and be sure that truth is therein, for his labor is filed in heaven, and if his deeds be not good he hath condemned himself. Would the managers of the press remember that there is an All-seeing eye, who knoweth not only every printed word their press utters, but the spirit and intention in which it was uttered, before whom their sheet is either pure and spotless, good intentions, or smeared with the dark ink of darker passions, than ink can express, they would be less reckless of their individual responsibility."

One man wants the market reports from Portland. In this connection we will say, that it is difficult to get good reports here before the Oregonian or other city papers get here, and most all our readers take some city paper, getting such matter in full.

A fellow who doesn't sign his name would like to have his paper stopped as soon as possible. Poor fellow, we feel sorry for him, as we hate to see a man deliberately dive into ignorance and intellectual darkness. We'll try to worry along without his support, however, if he'll be manly enough to let us know who he is.

We acknowledge the receipt of a number of criticisms. No doubt some of them are quite just, as the editor of a newspaper is as liable to make mistakes as anybody, and is just as liable to temptations as anybody. One party says that the HEADLIGHT is bright, newsy, well gotten up, presents a neat appearance as far as the mechanical work is concerned, and is a credit to the county, though he doesn't like our policy. Well, we can't make our politics and religion conform to the opinions of all. Another fellow says we are too radical. Perhaps he is right, but we can't help it.

Thanking our patrons for favors in the past year, we solicit a continuance of their favors during the present year, and we shall endeavor to improve the HEADLIGHT as fast as its patronage will justify.

A little town in eastern Oregon was divided up into factions and some who were dissatisfied with the local paper managed to get an opposition paper to start in the place. The editor of the old paper welcomed the new sheet as follows: "We are to have opposition. We welcome it, as we are glad to have company in our misery. We hope the new sheet will have no worse luck than ours. Another good thing about it, we will have only one factional fight on our hands instead of a hundred. Heretofore it kept us busy to keep from getting mixed up with all the various factional squabbles."

A. O. Yates of Oretown writes the Oregonian that there should be a bridge across Agency creek on the Grand Ronde reservation. As it is, the mails are often delayed in the winter time, and it seems that the county in which the reservation lies has not the authority or the will to build a bridge. Mr. Yates thinks the government should attend to the matter. One thing sure, there should be a bridge across Agency creek.

There is urgent need of a new road law in this state—at least as far as this county is concerned. The opinion is quite general here the road and road poll tax be collected in money and by contract under competent man.

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