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THE TILLAMOOK HEADLIGHT.

Editorial Snap Shots.

The world's greatest crime is the horrible war now raging in Europe.

We only express the sentiment of the people of the county when we hope that the County Court will get busy as soon as possible and get next year's road work arranged for and contracts let without the delay that took place last year. The County Court has gained some experience the past year, and, no doubt, it will be used to good effect.

There is this satisfaction. Tillamook County was not the only section of country by a long shot which had a juvenile deluge last week. Old Sol peeps through and we soon forget these little inconveniences. But the over flow of rivers have some good features. The thick sediment that is left on the meadows is a wonderful fertility to the soil and will insure a bumper crop of hay next year.

The prohibition law prohibits the manufacture of liquor in Oregon, but it allows that manufactured in other states to be sold here. It prohibits one person from shipping in more than 24 quarts of beer or two bottles of wine or spirits, but a family of a dozen persons cannot obtain more than the one person. It prohibits papers from carrying liquor ads, but it cannot stop newspapers published in other states from carrying ads, if one being circulated in this state.

A letter writing campaign is proposed for next month to help advertise Oregon in the East. Better plan yet. Send the home newspaper to your friends in the East, and then they will have 52 letters instead of one. The citizens of Tillamook county should send the Headlight to their friends in the East, anyway, for it would be a good new year's present, and it would certainly help to advertise the county, for it is the home newspapers that are leaders in this respect.

Saturday the State of Oregon will go, what is commonly called, "dry." It is a freak prohibition law like so many laws in this state. Our idea of a prohibition law is to take it "straight." There is one good thing about the law however, and that is the people hammered the lid on the saloon coffin good and hard and we do not expect to see a repetition of those institutions. We do, however, expect to see a reaction of public sentiment in regard to the manufacture and sale of malt liquors in the state, and should this come about the medium of trade will not be through the saloon, for it is not the malt liquors that cause drunkenness as much as other liquors.

Advertising schemes can always put one over on some business men and make them punk up several dollars before they realize they have been "stung." Some business men are awfully "easy" in that respect, for they do not realize that the local newspaper is the best advertising medium, but the most economical as well. Take for illustration the Tillamook Headlight. It goes into the homes of most families in the county, and it is safe to say that from three to six persons in every home reads it every week. There is no better advertising medium anywhere. But for all that business men can be wiggled into fooling away their money on all kinds of advertising schemes.

Road levies made by districts, together with money set aside in the Clatsop County budget, indicate that the through road from Astoria to the Tillamook County line, via the Necanicum Valley, will be opened up during 1916.—Oregon Voter.

This is a bit of good news for Tillamook county. With the Necanicum road in the North and the Sour Grass

road in the South completed, it will stimulate the summer travel wonderfully through the county. To those who have striven long and earnestly for better road facilities between Clatsop and the Yamhill counties, it will be a source of great pleasure to see this accomplished next year.

Are you one of those live wires who are going to get together, pull together and work together for the future development of this city? If not, why not. The ladies are organized for development work and to beautify the city, so what's the matter with the men folk doing their part and work together with the ladies? The snap shot man does think the men folk need a little jacking up along these lines, and the business men and professional men who won't lend a helping hand should be tagged with a bit of white ribbon to show that they are drones in a live community. Now is the opportune time to get together and the time to start is at the court house next Wednesday evening.

This good angel, known as the local merchant, has helped more men out of tight places and made success possible than any other institution, where without the credit he extended failure was inevitable.—Mollala Pioneer.

And, like a great many other good things, these good angels have been imposed upon, and instead of being grateful to the local merchant for credit, people have abused it and failed to pay the bills. That is one kind of ingratitude. Another is when a person is hard pushed for ready cash, he goes to the local merchant for credit, but when he has a few dollars in his jeans he sends to a mail order house for goods. By the way, did it ever occur to our readers what a large number of millionaires the people are making by trading with mail order houses.

A Clatsop County attorney complains that the Tillamook County newspapers are robbers because they charge a nominal rate of five cents a line for legal advertisements. Attorneys, doctors, dentists, etc., have fixed rates that they charge for their services, and banks have certain rates of interest, so we do not see why any one should complain because the Tillamook county newspapers make a reasonable charge for their services, especially attorneys, who are Johnny on the spot when it comes to charging for their services. The trouble with the newspapers is that they have had no fixed charge for their services, and the attorneys catching onto this fact, insist upon getting their work done at starvation prices. The fault with some of our local newspapers today is they charge one business man 5 to 6 cents an inch for space and sock it to others for 12 1/2 to 15 cents.

The snap shot man was a little interested in an editorial which appeared in the Dallas Itemizer, which should stop the growing nuisance of our citizens being annoyed with peddlers and agents, who often become insulting when they find they cannot sell their goods. This is what the Itemizer said: "You will notice, if you walk around the resident streets of Dallas that a number of houses have the sign, 'No Agents' posted at their front doors. That means more than the average person stops to ponder. It is a pretty good sign of true loyalty to one's home town. It means that agents of mail order houses can't do any business there and won't be given the chance. It means that the persons living there believe in spending their money where they make their money and thus do their part toward keeping their neighbors prosperous. No agents is a good sign for any one to post at the front door."

The snap shot man extends to those who religiously read the editorial snap shots every week a happy and a prosperous new year. We may say in this connection that in writing two columns of snap shots every week, it is hard to avoid stepping on some person's corns and to please those who disagree with us on local and political questions, but, for all that, we hold no feelings of prejudice against anyone. It is the duty of a live progressive newspaper to express its opinion. We do that from week to week without fear or favor, and we intend to be a little more aggressive in these columns in the future, as well as more outspoken on matters pertaining to the interests of the people and Tillamook County in particular, for the snap shot man is loyal to all parts of the county and wants to see it develop. We want the co-operation of the citizens—the live wires—to help make Tillamook prosperous next year.

"After all, the business interests of any town have to bear the expense of more newspapers than a town can

properly support, and they should have a voice in how many newspapers there should be."—Jefferson Bee.

In the end the business interests decide how many papers there shall be in a town. The business interests of a town include the subscribers to the newspapers. The subscription list is the basis of the newspaper's existence. The advertising is based on the subscription list, and the newspaper list and its advertising. So in the end the business interests control the situation. Certain cases there are where an "angel" supplies the deficit and a newspaper continues to exist as the plaything or tool of some person who is both able and inclined to pay its losses. But that usually grows onerous, except where the paper is subsidized in such a manner that its power of publicity may be commercialized sufficiently to make it to the interests that employ it.

There are those who believe that polygamy will be restored in Europe owing to the terrible slaughter of the male sex in the European war. "There are too many women" says an English newspaper, "and what are we going to do about it when the war is over and this undesirable predominance of women is still further increased? There was a surplus of nearly 2,000,000 women before the war, and now the men are being killed at such a rate that only women will be left alive unless something is done very soon. And the problem will be nearly as pressing in Germany and France. Germany had before the war a surplus of 845,000 women and France of 645,000 women, and since Germany and France are losing more men than England their plight will be correspondingly serious. If one may be permitted to take a somewhat frivolous view of the situation, the lot of the few surviving males in these countries will be rather a happy one on account of the competition, which was quite severe even before the war began and which may now become frantic."

This newspaper, however seems to have the best of the argument when comparing the right and wrongs of polygamy and the butchery that is now going on in human life, for it says: "Yes, polygamy is wrong. There cannot be any doubt about that. Also foolish, which is worse. But one could suppose that Europe, just at present, would not be saying much about right and wrong with some 25,000,000 soldiers trying to cut each others throats. It is almost as though a burglar should discourse on the sin of procrustation of Sabbath-breaking."

The snap shot man is convinced of this, and a good many of our citizens agree with us, that if we started in to agitate the question of bonding the county for a hard surfaced road through the county, it would carry. There is no doubt whatever in our mind about that, for the snap shot man has been approached by a large number of substantial citizens who want us to take the lead in the bonding campaign. Our attitude on the bonding question is well known to our readers, who are fully aware that for several years we have opposed it every time it bobbed up. We are convinced that there are some good arguments in favor of bonding for hard surfacing, for it would cut out the growing and heavy expense of maintenance, and the argument is made that by bonding it would reduce taxation. Perhaps the snap shot man has seen enough and knows enough of public affairs not to look for any reduction in taxation as long as there are so many tax levying bodies and under our new fangled Oregon System. Suppose the county did bond and cut the road levy down to four or five mills, we will gamble that it will be only a few years before the road levy is back to where it is now. However, the people should be cautious and go slow during Democratic free trade conditions for this is no time to put a mortgage plaster on the county. We believe that a large proportion of the road fund should be put into hard surfacing the main thoroughfare through the county, all present projects completed, no new projects started, and the county to pay as it goes. That is the policy we intend sticking to and advocating from time to time, but it may be that if outside agitators intend to ruffle our wool, why we are liable to put on our fighting duds and whoop her up to bond for a hard surfaced highway from Clatsop to Yamhill county lines.

Wheeler Reporter Discusses Road Matters.

(Wheeler Reporter.)

This paper does not wish to be understood as opposing the construction or improvement of any road in the county. In fact, all the roads are needed and each road will have its benefit upon the county as a whole. But we do believe that it is hardly fair that this road district should have to contribute toward the building of a road in the extreme South part of the county. If such an attitude is to be taken, would it not be fair for this district to ask districts No. 2 and 3 to contribute \$5,000 or \$6,000 each, to be used in widening and fixing up the roads up the Nehalem, to connect with the Columbia Highway? In fact, would it not be just as feasible to join with Clatsop county in a joint road district and spend the money in district No. 2 and 3 in building a road in Clatsop County, as it is for us to be spending money in the Sour Grass joint district, where most of the work is in Yamhill county?

The Tillamook Headlight attempts to justify the juggling of District No. 1's money by saying: "Gentlemen, the Sour Grass road is of inestimable benefit to all parts of the county, and the citizens should hold a big celebration when the road is completed next year." Parlying Bro. Baker says further, "The Wheeler Reporter wants the people of the North of the county to attend the budget meeting

and demand that that part of the county have more of the road money, because the timber assessment in that part of the county is greater than in other parts of the county. That is not the right way to consider the matter. The farming community pays, in the central part of the county exceedingly more taxes than elsewhere and we have no hesitancy in saying that where the population is densest and travel over the roads is heaviest, this is where a large proportion of the road money should go."

In other words, Bro. Baker seeks to inform us that the timber interests of District No. 1 should pay for the building of roads for the cheese industry of Districts No. 2 and 3. He well knows, and can't get away from the fact, that the north end of the county pays over 51 percent of the total tax of the county, and the law specifies that at least one-half of all money raised in any one district, shall be spent in that district, which law the "Honorable" County Courts have in the past years barely complied with by "the skin of their teeth," so to speak.

He also knows that this end of the county needs roads and improvements as much, if not more than the other two districts of the county. Bro. Baker's pet district is so used to relying upon appropriating, or politely stealing, the funds of the north end of the county, that if a move is started to raise money to buy more triced underwear for the "poor farmers" of that district, Bro. Baker would respect the North end of the county to appropriate its 50 per cent or more. We shall have something to say at the budget meeting.

The Headlight made the suggestion on Dec. 2nd that road districts No. 2 and 3, appropriate money for the Necarney road, Here is what the snap shot man said:

"Tillamook and Yamhill counties succeeded in getting \$9000 of the state Highway funds. Why can't Clatsop and Tillamook get together another year and ask for an appropriation for the Necarney road. That is a trump card the commissioner from the north part of the county should be ready to play at the first opportunity. We believe there would be no difficulty in obtaining an appropriation for it at purpose which would give Tillamook county one of the most beautiful scenic highways in Oregon. Tillamook and Yamhill counties did not get as large appropriation for the Sour Grass road as it should have done, and this should be a good argument in favor of obtaining \$20,000 for the Necarney road. And to insure this improvement, and a give and take spirit, Commissioner Owens should be willing to give \$7,500 from his appropriation and a like amount from the judge's district. That would be giving each end of the county a square deal in an expensive road project."

That surely dispenses with the first part of the Reporter's editorial, and shows that we are willing to assist district No. 1 in that laudable undertaking, for it will benefit the South part of the county as much as the north part of the county.

The Reporter then says "We have no hesitancy in saying that where the population is densest and travel over roads is heaviest, this is where a large proportion of the road money should go." That is what the snap shot man is contending for and we are glad to know that the Reporter agrees with us. The south part of the county produces one third of the cheese manufactured in the county and this goes to prove that the roads in that part of the county are used by more dairymen than in district No. 1, where a very small proportion of the cheese is produced. And the south part of the county is without railroad connections, consequently the travel on the roads is exceedingly heavy.

In regard to the other portion of the Reporter's editorial, it seems to want to make Bro. Baker the "goat," and as it is punctured with a fault finding, grouchy spirit, we do not think it is necessary to answer it further than to say that we do not know of anybody who wants to deprive the north end of the county a just proportion of the road fund.

ROAD DECISION MADE.

State Engineer to Have Full Charge of Highway Work.

Salem, Ore., Dec. 28.—Final chapter in the controversy waged for the last six months over who should have supervision of the state highway department was written today by the Supreme Court, when in an opinion by Justice Bean, State Engineer Lewis was declared State Highway Engineer to have charge of state road work in place of E. L. Clantine, chief deputy engineer. The decision was given in mandamus proceedings instituted by Peterson & Johnson contractors.

In allowing the application for a writ, the Supreme Court construed the measure passed by the last legislature consolidating the state highway department with the office of the State Engineer, declaring the provision which placed the state highway work in charge of a chief deputy engineer invalid. The court held that the provision conflicted with the title of the act.

Under the consolidation law, the Governor is given the appointment of the chief deputy engineer. Today's decision does not remove this power from the executive, through the right of appointing deputies in the highway department, hitherto accorded the chief deputy, is declared to belong rightfully to the state engineer.

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A Happy New Year to All.



WE HOPE FIRE WON'T COME to your home during the coming year, but there is a possibility that it may, and if it does you should be prepared for the consequences. It seems to us so foolish when a man says he doesn't need fire insurance, that he has never had a fire and don't expect to have one. When a fire starts you can never tell where it will end. Be prepared in any event by taking out a fire insurance policy.

ROLLIE W. WATSON, "The Insurance Man."

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