

HERE == YOU == ARE
---CHRISTMAS IS NEAR AT HAND---

And it is time to think of friends and relatives. If you wish to increase their friendship toward you during the coming year, just drop in and see

F. Dearborn

263 COMMERCIAL STREET

And purchase something nice in the line of FANCY BOOKS, just received. We also have the largest stock of Stationery and Fancy goods in the city, and quote the lowest prices—Give us a call, and be convinced.

DOLLARS BROUGHT TO US Special Bargains, For a Few Days.

Will Save You Dollars.

Remember we save you from 20 to 30 per cent on every pair of boots and shoes purchased from us.



We are giving our patrons more good reliable Boots and Shoes for their dollars this fall than was ever given by any Boot and Shoe firm in Oregon. If you wish to save your dollars visit us. JAMES DENHAM & Co., 118 State St., Next door to John Hughes, Eastern Prices.

IMMENSE OFFER

FOR 14 DAYS, PIANOS & ORGANS At Factory Prices.

Elegant piano, Cost \$600, for \$150. Fine UPRIGHT Pianos, \$200 to \$450. ORGANS, from \$40. Great BARGAINS in Violins, Guitars and Banjos.

EASTON'S MUSIC STORE, 310 Commercial St. Portland Branch, 93 Morrison St.

WELLER BROS., THE GROCERS

Commercial Street.

The Best for the Money all the Time.

J. A. BAKER. A. B. STRANG

BAKER & STRANG, Stoves and Tinware,

House Furnishing Goods, Mantels, Etc.

Plumbing, Gas and Steam Fitting. Sole agents for the Peninsular Stoves and Ranges, Oregon Pottery Co., and Richardson & Boynton Furnaces.

302 Commercial St., Salem.

NEW SEASONABLE GOODS.

WE INVITE ATTENTION TO OUR STOCK OF OXIDIZED SILVER, LEATHER GOODS, and PLUSH GOODS, ROCEING HORSES, MANICURE SETS, BUILDING BLOCKS, ODOR CASES, EXPRESS WAGONS.

(A New and Endless variety of) Dolls, Toys and Notions, Games, Tea sets, Japanese goods, Rubber animals. BROOKS & HARRITT, 94 State St.

THE CAPITAL JOURNAL.

HOFER BROTHERS, - - - Editors.

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MR. GEER'S SPEAKERSHIP CANDIDACY.

Marion county will present a very able man in Hon. Theo. T. Geer for the speakership. He is a republican of tried and tested party mettle, firm and true to the party traditions. He is an experienced legislator, a man of brains, a thinker, a forcible public speaker, a man who clearly knows his own mind and to some extent the public mind.

Mr. Geer is an honest man, with a clean legislative record, so far as we know. He is without a stain of corruption or a blemish on his honor as a public man. He is fearless in expressing his views of public matters. He is not afraid to change his mind if he finds he was mistaken in accepting facts or arriving at conclusions. Such a man is liable to charges of inconsistency. But he is not guilty of the foolishness of adhering to error when he is convinced of it. He does not belong to the class proverbially labelled as fools who never change their mind. This in short is a brief outline of Mr. Geer's mental make-up.

Marion county influence in Oregon legislation will not be a bad influence. In general intelligence, moral character and progressive spirit the people of this county will compare with any. The political environment of a member of the legislature is such that he cannot easily fall below Oregon's standards of citizenship. There is much in favor of Mr. Geer in the fact that he hails from Marion county, and represents her best farming element. He is one of her hard-working, upright, clean, self-respecting type of agriculturists. He was educated at Willamette university and has practically grown up in Oregon. He has been a resident for a number of years in Eastern Oregon. Location and experience are certainly in favor of Mr. Geer.

We do not endorse Mr. Geer's personal views on any subject when we favor his selection for speaker. We do not consider his recent address at the Farmers' Institute as sound philosophy. Mr. Geer is inclined to a conservatism that is just as dangerous to progress as the "mossbackism" which he ridicules. Of Mr. Geer's views that bear directly upon proposed legislation we shall take the liberty to make comment at another time.

THOS. H. TONGUE FOR PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

The Oregonian of Nov. 15 reads the riot act and cracks the party lash vociferously as follows: "There will be little if any difficulty over the organization of the two branches of the legislature at the session next January. Hon. Thomas H. Tongue, of Washington county, will in all probability, be president of the senate. Since it was ascertained that Hon. Frank A. Moore, of Columbia county, would not be a candidate, Senator Tongue is the choice of a large majority of the party in power in the senate. During the campaign he made a brilliant canvass for the republican ticket, standing solid in his support for every nominee of his party, and throughout the campaign he did effective work. Now he will be rewarded with the presidency of the senate, and with a majority of the republican senators in his favor his selection is only a question of time. As a matter of course there will be no chance for any one to secure a position who defaulted against the republican party last June, and there are aspirants for some of the minor places within the gift of the majority in both senate and house who will find this out when the session opens."

The above is inserted on the agricultural page of that paper, but it bears the stamp of editorial authority, all the same. Senator Tongue is an old school-boy friend of Hon. Harvey Scott, of the Oregonian, in early Washington county days. This will account in part for Scott's excessive partiality. Besides, Mr. Tongue led the attack on Governor Penney on the stump, his speech being made up entirely of a review of the Governor's shortcomings and misdeeds, as seen thru the Oregonian's eyes. It is not believed that the speeches helped the republican candidate.

All who know Senator Tongue admire him as a republican, as a lawyer and as a man. It is not good policy for the party, however, to take for its leader in the senate a politician whose views of the executive were not endorsed by about one out of three of his own party. It seems to the JOURNAL that the interest of the party would be better served by a president of the senate who would be less likely to meet the irritabilities of his excellency. Senator Tongue could serve his party and constituents best on the floor of the senate.

Next 30 Days.

SALEM SAUSAGE WORKS.

Only German Market in City. Choicest, Fresh, Smoked and Pickled Meats Manufactured.

All kinds of Sausages, Wholesale and Retail—Free delivery in city.

171 Commercial St., CHAS. WOLZ, PROP.

M. T. RINEMAN, DEALER IN Staple and Fancy Groceries, Crockery, Glassware, Lamps, Wooded and Waxed Ware. All kinds of mill feed. Also vegetables and fruits in their season. Highest price paid for country produce. We solicit shares of your patronage.

MISS KNOX SELECT SCHOOL!

Will open her private school on Monday September 1, at the Little Central school building.

CRIMINAL NEGLIGENCE.

Although there seems to be no reason for challenging the verdict of the coroner's jury in the Salem railroad accident, it having been found after careful inspection of the scene very shortly after the casualty occurred, the Southern Pacific Co. is making a desperate effort to shift the responsibility. It has devised a theory that a rail had been removed from the track by tramps or by persons who desired to wreck the train for the purpose of plundering the passengers. A drawbar and a track wrench which had been reported stolen from the Salem section house are said to have been found near the trestle, and the railroad officials are said to be firm in the belief that the train was purposely thrown from the track.

Railroad officials are paid to be firm in their belief on just such points as this; but their belief will not weigh very heavily in the public mind against the verdict of the jury which charged the company with criminal negligence. The jury found that the bridge was unsound, and it will take a great deal of testimony to overturn that finding. Persons who were injured in the accident and may have a claim against the Southern Pacific company for damages, should see to it that evidence is gathered now and on the spot, before witnesses disappear or are replaced by a new one. Now is the time to begin making ready for the trial, which it is evident that the proposed defense of the railroad company will make necessary.

If precedent were admissible in evidence, a case of negligence could be made against the railroad company very easily. It took a great deal of persistent hammering by the Chronicle to get the Central Pacific to replace its old wooden pier on the other side of the bay by the present mole, although the pier was a constant source of danger, the piles in many places being mere shells, eaten through and through by the teredo, and the policy of the company is just as penny wise and pound foolish to-day as it was then.

THE COMMISSION'S OPPORTUNITY.

There has been much ill-will and prejudice manifested all over the state towards the railroad commission. The attacks have not been so much upon the gentlemen composing the commission as upon the law, under which they are considered almost powerless. We believe a good deal of this criticism is ill-founded. The commission is not as powerless a body as it would seem at first. Mr. Faulk is an energetic, successful business man. Mr. Clow, the democrat of the board, has a wide reputation for rigid Scotch integrity of character. Mr. Colvig is a man of brains, energy of a fearless disposition to get at the truth, and an apparent desire to prosecute the public side of the case. The JOURNAL has been as severe as any paper in denouncing the commission for its shortcomings. But it desires to retract much that it has said in the light of that body's recent work, as it now appears to us.

The commission has a grand opportunity in the case of the Lash disaster, to prove that it is a valuable, serviceable body of public prosecutors in the people's interests. In this case of the people vs. the negligence of the Southern Pacific, the commission's findings on the facts will be looked for with intense interest.

AN ALLIANCE NEGATOR.

Governor Gordon, of Atlanta, Ga., has been elected United States senator to succeed Brown, the railroad king of that state. He hastened to pledge himself publicly to represent the Farmers' alliance principles, as that organization had control of the legislature. He is a new convert to agricultural politics, as what politician would not be apt to be under like circumstances. The farmers elect the first senator, as the result of the election, an alliance man.

The corporation organs will ridicule the conversion of Gordon to alliance principles. But we are quite sure his vote, even if given to get the office, and to that extent the act of a demagogue, will be more reliable in the people's interest if directed by the Alliance than if directed by the corporations, as Brown's was. No one can assume that the Alliance is actuated by mercenary motives. It is an assurance of the perpetuity of our government to behold one after another of the members of the senate slipping out of the grasp of the plutocrats. Hail the day!

COUNTY FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.

The fruit growers of Silverton have decided to hold a meeting, Saturday, Dec. 13th at 10 a. m., for the purpose of organizing a Marion county fruit growers' union. Prominent horticulturists of the state will be invited and it is hoped to have many such present. It will be a gathering for educational purposes and to form a permanent organization to advance fruit interests. It is a highly commendable movement and there should be a good attendance.

HONESTY is the best policy—even in politics.

It is a safe policy to patronize regular merchants.

Wonderful arrays of new goods are being displayed at the Salem stores.

They call it a "no-dance" in Eastern Oregon when they want to give a hop.

Reform at Baker City is striking for an early saloon closing movement—at 12 at midnight.

The Voice considers that the late election opens a grand opportunity for the third party. But a party cannot live off opportunities.

The Thurman reception in Ohio was a great event, and must warm the cockles of every good democratic brother's heart.

The expense of the Lash Lash disaster will be more than it would cost to keep track walkers on every mile of the entire Southern Pacific road for five years.

A History of the Oregon Railroad Commission.

ED. CAPITAL JOURNAL: As the time for the next meeting of the legislature is approaching, it may be well to call the attention of our law makers to the condition our laws regulating the traffic on the railroads and, indeed the terrific wreck near this city, is a fearful reminder that more attention should be paid to these great thoroughfares, so that the lives and property of our citizens may be more secure.

The first real effort to regulate the traffic on the railroads in this state was made at the session of the legislature of 1882, by the introduction of a bill known as the Hoult bill. It was similar in its provisions to the law now in force (or that ought to be enforced) in this state. The bill introduced by Mr. Hoult in 1882 was referred to a committee of the senate of which committee Mr. Colvig, the present railroad commissioner, was chairman, and he not being then favorable to railroad regulation, withheld the bill until it was too late to process its passage. And then reported it unfavorably, and it was killed through railroad influence at the next session in 1885. A bill with nearly the same features was introduced by Mr. Hoult of Lin county, and as the anti-monopolists had enough influence in the legislature to prevent the Portland political machine (which was also the railroad ring) from securing the speaker of the house and president of the senate, and thereby getting control of the committees of these bodies. This measure received favorable consideration and became a law; and has had some influence to restrain the exactions and arrogance of the managers of railroad corporations.

This Hoult law did not undertake to fix rates for freight charges on the railroads. In 1887 many shippers, both in this valley and in Eastern Oregon, began to demand legislation regulating freight rates on railroads, and a bill was prepared to create a railroad commission, giving to it adequate power to regulate railroad traffic, look into the business of the corporations, ascertain the amount of stock, cost of roads, liabilities of the corporations, condition of the roads as to efficiency and safety, etc. But Mr. Joseph Simon was a member of that legislature and had sufficient influence to control the committee to whom the bill was referred, and had the same sort of all its provisions that were not satisfactory to the railroad managers. After this enactment of the bill by Simon and his committee, some amendments were added which gave the commission—some—power, and the right of inquiry into the business of the corporations, and the bill as amended became a law, and had it been faithfully executed would have given much needed information to the legislature at the next session. One faithful commissioner, J. E. Slater, did make an able report as to the business of the roads, and reported a bill giving the commission ample power to protect the rights of shippers and the traveling public. This bill fell also under the shadow of Mr. Joseph Simon's baleful influence. He was then president of the senate, and fixed the committee, and the bill failed to secure any consideration. At Mr. Simon's suggestion, however, a third commissioner was added and provision made for electing all the commissioners by the joint convention of the two houses. Simon called a caucus and put two friends of the corporations on the commission, one of whom is Mr. Colvig who did not formerly believe in regulating R. R. traffic, and who now may probably think his friends, the R. R. managers who put him in office, know best what R. R. regulation is best for the shippers and traveling public. Such a commission is useless to the public. We need a commission such as exists in Iowa with ample powers, and elected by the people, and not appointed by R. R. attorneys.

Capital National Bank

SALEM - - - OREGON. Capital Paid up, - - - \$75,000 Surplus, - - - \$15,000

R. B. WALLACE, President. W. W. MARTIN, Vice-President. J. M. ALBERT, Cashier.

LOANS MADE To farmers on wheat and other marketable produce, consigned or in store either in private granaries or public warehouses.

State and County Warrants Bought at Par. COMMERCIAL PAPER Discounted at reasonable rates. Drafts drawn direct on New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Portland, London, Paris, Berlin Hong Kong and Calcutta.

Capital City Restaurant Jas. Batchelor, Prop'r. Warm Meals at All Hours of the Day

None but white labor employed in this establishment. A good substantial meal cooked in first-class style. Twenty-five cents per meal.

RED FRONT. Court street, between Journal office and Minto's Livery.

First National Bank

SALEM OREGON. WM. N. LABUE, President. DR. J. REYNOLDS, Vice President. JOHN MOIR, Cashier.

GENERAL BANKING. Exchange on Portland, San Francisco, New York, London and Hong Kong bought and sold. State, County and City warrants bought. Farmers are cordially invited to deposit and transact business with us. Liberal advances made on wheat, wool, hops and other property at reasonable rates. Insurance on such security can be obtained at the bank in most reliable companies.

WILLIAMS & ENGLAND BANKING CO.

CAPITAL STOCK, all Subscribed, \$200,000 Transact a general banking business in all its branches.

GEO. WILLIAMS, President. Wm. England, Vice President. HUGH McLEAN, Cashier.

DIRECTORS: Geo. Williams, Wm. England, Dr. J. A. Richardson, J. W. Hobson, J. A. Baker, and Wm. C. Strang.

Bank in new Exchange block on Commercial street. 812-14

What! Tom. Glad to see you, old fellow! It's almost ten years since we were married, but down let's have an expensive meeting. How's the wife?

"Oh! she's as usual, same as usual, always well, and good natured to the last. Last year she was on her feet, and she looked as happy as a queen."

"I think she is, and we are bound to have a celebration. My wife can make a little bit better than anyone I ever knew, but she's always surprising me with some delicate confection she adds to the comfort and beauty of our little home, and she's a good housewife, and she's a good mother. And she's right! I wouldn't do without it myself for double the subscription price. We read together from the Bible, and she's a good reader, and she's a good mother, and she's a good wife, and she's a good daughter, and she's a good sister, and she's a good friend, and she's a good neighbor, and she's a good citizen, and she's a good woman."

"What wonderful Magazine is it?"

"Democrat's Family Magazine, and—"

"What! Why that's what I wanted to see, but I told her it was an extravagance."

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