

Editorial Page of The Daily Journal

By HOFER BROTHERS.



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Entered at the postoffice at Salem, Oregon as second-class matter.

Weather.—For Monday night and Tuesday, to continue cool and some fog.

EXPANSION AND REAL ESTATE.

A quarter-page advertisement in this paper makes known the merits of real estate in Englewood addition.

That is a portion of the Sixth ward that has been added to the city under the new charter. It is a beautiful residence section.

There are more sales of real estate in the suburbs than for years before and it is all due to the adoption of the Greater Salem charter. **CONSIDERING THAT NOT A LICK HAS YET BEEN DONE BY THE CITY TOWARD IMPROVEMENT** in the new wards, not a street improved or a walk laid under the new charter, the people in the new wards should feel encouraged.

Not an electric light has yet been erected, not a dollar of taxes levied for the improvement of the new wards. Yet property in them is coming into the market and actually advancing.

The fact is, the adoption of the charter alone is a stimulus to progress and property values. Fences are coming down and the coming year will see more improvements than ever before.

What would not an intelligently progressive policy do for Greater Salem? It would work wonders to construct one fine boulevard from the center of the city to its outside limit.

THE FIRST STREET TO PUT DOWN A PERMANENT PAVEMENT WILL EXPERIENCE AN INCREASE IN VALUES AND A BOOM IN IMPROVEMENTS AS WOULD SURPRISE AND CONVERT EVEN THE OLDEST INHABITANT.

The construction even of a good macadamized broken rock street south on Commercial street would stimulate building on both sides of that street out past the cemeteries.

It takes some faith to see this, but we need only look at the boulevards that have been built out of Portland and how they have filled with beautiful residences.

THE SPEEDY CONSTRUCTION OF THE CHEMAWA MOTOR LINE WOULD COVER ALL THE DISTANCE FROM HERE TO THAT THRIVING GOVERNMENT INSTITUTION WITH COTTAGES AND SUBURBAN RESIDENCES.

A progressive policy of expansion means that thousands of acres on all sides of our city would become valuable residence property and be built up by home-seekers.

PROGRESS IN THE SALEM PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

It must be apparent to all that there has been great progress in the Salem public schools in the past five years.

When the fight was begun for their reconstruction, the district was heavily in debt and over a year behind in current expenses.

THE WHOLE ANNUAL EXPENSE WAS CARRIED ON BORROWED MONEY AT NINE PER CENT INTEREST AND TAXES COLLECTED WERE TURNED OVER ON INDEBTEDNESS.

The grades of the schools was lower than those of any other city in the state, and Salem was the largest city in the United States without a high school.

All these matters have been remedied in the past five years. A free library has been placed in each school and a movement started for good pictures.

Many of the school room walls are still bare and dingy, hung with cobwebs, and decorated with stains, dirt and dust. Some are hung with ridiculous pictures from an educational standpoint.

WITHOUT INCREASING TAXATION THE DEBT HAS BEEN LARGELY REDUCED, the district has been placed on a cash basis, and wages of all grade teachers and principals increased 10 per cent.

The grades have been advanced in all the schools, the work of teaching made more efficient, vocal music and drawing introduced and work on the tenth grade has been started without additional expense.

The fact remains for Salem public school patrons to consider that the grades are lower than those of Portland, Eugene, Ashland, Oregon City, Jefferson and many other smaller places.

But Salem has made a start in the right direction and the present good work maintained will put our city abreast of any public school city in the state, and in many ways ahead.

There is a shocking indifference to progress on the part of many persons, and this extends to some of the teachers and principals in the schools themselves.

All this has to be overcome. But no true friend of the schools should be discouraged. If other cities can have the best for lower taxes in some cases than we may pay, Salem can and should have the best.

Teachers who are indifferent about progress are standing in their own light and will not be wanted elsewhere at any price. **THE WORLD "DO MOVE" AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS ARE A LIVE PROPOSITION.**

Better schools means better salaries, better demand for our teachers all over the state, a larger population coming each year to live at Salem to send their children to school and a general advance in the value of property and the prosperity of the community.

THE FAKE OREGON REGISTRATION LAW.

In the state library will be found a blue volume under the title, "Australian Ballot Law."

That book contains **THE ONLY CORRECT FORM OF A REGISTRATION LAW,** and correct registration is an essential feature of the Australian law.

Correct registration is an essential part of the Australian ballot law in England and in all the British provinces and in many of the states. The Portland politicians and other corrupt politicians in Oregon did not want correct registration and so left it out of the law when it was enacted.

They enacted a registration law that does not interfere with voting booters and nonresidents in bunches and in voting repeaters on the "six householders" blank as is done at every state election. The Australian ballot law provides a registration officer to be appointed for each voting precinct by a court of record—that would be the county court under our system.

This registration officer makes up a roll of the bona fide legal voters of the precinct, and the roll is made in duplicate and cloned just as

long before election as is required for a legal voter to vote in the precinct.

Three days are set before a magistrate for "purging the roll." This consists of striking off the names of persons shown to be not legal voters and putting on any legal voters who have been omitted.

This is done before a magistrate and when completed the rolls are closed, one is sent to the court of record, and the other is posted on election day at the polling place.

We think enough of the citizen to give him a free rural mail, to enumerate his school children, but we do not think enough of the voter to enroll his name. We put him to trouble and expense to enroll himself.

In spite of the fact that we have a county, state and presidential election before us in Oregon, very few citizens are taking the trouble to register, and each year fewer are voting.

Is not that a bad law which drives more and more persons from the polls on election day?

How long shall such a law remain on the statute books? It should be wiped out by the next legislature.

The politicians have repeatedly tried to emasculate the Australian ballot law so as to have the voter vote a straight ticket for his party by making just one little cross with his pencil.

Attempts have been made to still further debase the elections by putting a premium on voting a yellow dog ticket.

But no effort has ever been made to give the people a correct, honest registration law. This coming session is the time to do it.

TAKEN OUT OF THE COURTS.

Nolens, Volens, Absquiter Lucidus, the supreme court has solemnly decided that about the only lawyers who ever did anything for the public in the Gilbert Bank Failure case were entitled to nothing for their fees.

That was a bank failure where no one seems to have been entitled to anything but the bankers.

Judge Bollinger solemnly decided that the bankers could not be taken into a court of bankruptcy **BECAUSE THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE THAT THE BANK WAS INSOLVENT.**

If he had decided the other way there would probably have been no tangible result for the depositors, because Oregon has not the common law of other states making it a felony to receive deposits when the books of the bank show a state of insolvency.

The claysits at Buert Vista that were sworn in at such a high value as assets have now been in the possession of the receiver and neither he nor his attorneys have been able to show any great earnings.

Well, it is refreshing to know that if the depositors got little, the lawyers will get less. It was all a clear case of **PAINLESS FINANCIAL DENTISTRY,** and in the mean time the patient will recover and has made progress in **HAVING HIS EYETEETH CUT.**

AN ABIDING FAITH IN EVERLASTING HELL.

The Pacific Methodist Advocate is so liberal in its discussion of religious questions that it is always a pleasure to read what it has to say on such topics. The leading article in the current number is devoted to the subject of "Eternal Capital Punishment."

By this is meant the "eternal destruction of the wicked;" that is to say, their utter annihilation.

It appears this idea was advanced and maintained by the Rev. John Phillips at a meeting of the preachers of the Congregational church in San Francisco recently.

The Advocate objects very strongly to this doctrine, and protests against such removal "of the landmarks of the Fathers."

It finds so much comfort in the ancient dogma of the eternity of hell, as a place and state of punishment for the wicked, that it looks with great disfavor upon the idea of utter annihilation, as being entirely too easy, and not in accordance with what it regards as the plain teachings of the scriptures.

The Advocate fortifies its contention by a line of argument that is at least plausible.

It declares that the language of the Bible with reference to the lasting nature of Heaven is no more positive than that regarding the everlasting nature of the punishment to be meted out to the wicked. If it declares, the "eternal hell is unreasonable, then an eternal state of blessedness is incomprehensible."

And as to the reasonableness or unreasonableness of hell, our pious contemporary finds it far less difficult to accept what it considers the plain teachings of scripture concerning that place, "where the smoke of their torment ascendeth up forever," than to assume the existence of a hell of conscious suffering in which there is no real roasting, smoke or fire at all.

JOURNAL X-RADIUMS

Cubans have been showing their appreciation of America's aid, by flinging mud at Uncle Sam's escutcheon at the consulate. But why kick, we haven't been very careful ourselves about keeping it clean.

It may be the part of wisdom not to "look a gift horse in the mouth," but with Carnegies libraries, an examination of the teeth and the wrinkles on the horns should be carefully considered.

A dispatch yesterday says the California & Oregon Land Co. has been awarded title to 90,000 acres of land in Klamath county, valued at \$1,500,000, or about \$17 an acre. Now listen to it warble against paying taxes on it for more than \$1.25 per acre.

Hearst is not a candidate for the presidential nomination, Murphy told him so, and he knows it.

Andrew Carnegie insists that theaters be provided with steel curtains. It is possible that Andy has a corner on that kind of steel.

Senator Dietrich has asked the senate to examine into the charges against him, and see if he is fit for the senate. Dietrich is too sensitive, the senators know as well as the public does that he is not to blame for escaping the pen on a technicality. Burton, Smoot and others are no better qualified for the position than is the Nebraska senator.

David R. Francis, of the St. Louis Exposition says he has no idea he is in the race for the Presidency. As David R's opinion is the same as everybody's, why should it be given prominence in the dispatches?

Senator Hanna says he has been "studying into the workings of the Golden Rule, and is really astonished." It will be observed that, like Carnegie, he didn't get acquainted with the Golden Rule, until he had swiped the balance of mankind for a good many millions.

They do say that some of the prominent society people of Portland are going to make arrangements to live with their folks in the country and rent rooms to the visitors during the Lewis and Clark fair.

Something new in gloves—the country girl wearing her first pair.

Ohio is to have a state flower—the carnation. Some had the impression that it was a graft of another stock.

Who wouldn't be a John D. Rockefeller? He hasn't a hair on his head—not even eyebrows, or eye lashes. He never sneezes, because there are no ticklers on the inside of his nose.

The Miner's Cabin, a saloon at Baker City, has a double half-column ad in the Baker City Democrat. It does almost everything but advertise free samples, or give away a diamond.

Ayer's Hair Vigor

Only 35¢ Your gray hair makes you look 20 years older. No need of this old age. Restore the color. Keep young.

Branson & Ragan.
Keep all kinds of groceries, and they are the best that can be found in the city. You don't know it until you have tried them.

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