

Editorial Page of The Daily Journal

By HOFER BROTHERS.



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FARMERS AND THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

The state grange in a report raised the question, whether the State Agricultural college might not be made more of a farmer's college, and showed that out of 354 young men in attendance only 59 were taking the course in Agriculture.

The Journal always seeks to place the responsibility where it belongs and in place of finding fault with the college, directed the attention of the grange to the fact that out of thirteen members of the board of regents appointed by the governors of Oregon only one was a farmer.

The Journal did not say these regents were unfit or improper men in any sense of the word, but if a board of all farmers were appointed to run a business college the unfitness would be very manifest, and the criticism would be fully as pertinent.

Of the lawyers, bankers and politicians who have been made regents for the Agricultural college there is one notable exception who is a farmer in a practical sense of the word, and that is W. W. Cotton, attorney for the O. R. & N. Co.

We are informed that he is conducting personally a large farm and making it pay as a business, and so far as Mr. Cotton is concerned, the criticism is unfair. He was appointed by Governor Chamberlain.

To make this whole matter plain, there are farmers and stock-raisers in Oregon who make their sole business, who do not rely on some profession for a living, and who do not farm as amateurs, who should be put on that board of regents.

A capitalist or public official or lawyer or banker who lives at some big city, and incidentally owns several farms, or herds of cattle and who farm by proxy, can hardly be called a representative of the great agricultural class for whom the college was intended.

By no stretch of imagination can the present board of regents be accused of being a band of horny-handed tillers of the soil. They are city men, public officials, men who manage politics, anything but farmers, and this is not said as any reflection.

Farmers of the state have reason to be dissatisfied with the agricultural college if it is run too much into the cultural branches and not enough in the direction of agriculture, and that seems to be the case.

THE WAR IN THIBET.

The war between Russia and Japan has absorbed so much of the public attention that the war in Thibet has been almost overlooked.

Thibet is a real hermit nation and about the only one of its kind in the world. It is contiguous to China, which country nominally controls it, and also to India. Because of Great Britain's interests in India it is important that she should maintain friendly relations with Thibet, using it, as Japan wants to use Korea, as a buffer against the encroachments of Russia.

Russia, however, by her wily diplomacy has secured a dominating influence in Lhasa, the capital of the country.

Some time ago Col. Younghusband representing Great Britain, asked for a conference at Lhasa by which the relations between England and Thibet should be amicably arranged. The grand lama of Thibet ignored the request.

Then England sent Younghusband on a "mission" to Lhasa. This mission was a military expedition organ-

ized to force its way to the Thibetan capital. As all foreigners are absolutely prohibited from entering the precincts of the sacred city the insult of the undertaking is easily understood. The grand lama with his armies is opposing Younghusband's progress and several severe battles have taken place in the rugged, mountainous country.

Of course, it is mere coincidence that the English government is pushing the column toward the heart of the hermit nation at a time when Russia is so seriously involved with Japan.

It is difficult to predict the outcome. It will probably require a large army and a big expedition to force a way to Lhasa. It may mean a repetition of the program in South Africa. And yet English prestige requires that the effort be successful.

The Thibetan campaign is only one of the many moves in the eastern game played so long by the diplomats of England and Russia, whose interests conflict. And it may easily lead to the long-threatened war between those countries.

LONG STEP IN RIGHT DIRECTION.

Recently the state of Ohio entered upon a commendable experiment in the matter of restricting marriage. Under the terms of a law passed at the recent session of the Ohio legislature, applicants for license to wed must, upon applying to the probate judge, answer the following questions:

- Is either party a habitual drunkard?
- Is either an epileptic?
- Is either insane?
- Is either under the influence of an intoxicating liquor or drug?

The Buckeye legislature might with equal propriety have added many more questions to the list printed above. Improper marriages are responsible for most of the misery of this world, and it is the duty of the framers of our state laws to minimize the suffering which follows the marriage of persons who should not be allowed to wed.

Applicants for government positions, and in many states for positions under state, county or city, must stand thorough examinations and prove themselves fit to administer the duties of the department in which they aspire to labor. Yet in the greatest department of life, that of wedlock, persons are permitted to promiscuously marry, and without restraint to bring children into the world who may be idiots, physical or moral deformities.—Astorian.

TAX UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

Judge Rudkins of Washington has declared unconstitutional the act of March 5, 1903, relative to imposing a license on all persons wanting to transact business in the state without having first resided six months therein. The case came up on habeas corpus proceedings in the case of the State vs. J. O. Connell, who was arrested for selling vehicles without license. The court says:

"The constitution requires that acts of this nature shall be equal and uniform in their operation and to be valid must be directed against business to be regulated and not against a certain class of persons engaged therein. This is clearly a trade regulation and not a police regulation.

"If merchants of this state desire protection against the class of persons or business methods described in this act they must either refrain from transacting business in the same manner themselves or submit

to the same burdens. The constitution of the state and equal protection of the law imperatively demand this. After an extended examination of authorities, so far as I have been able to discover, class legislation of this kind is condemned by every court in the Union, and properly so."

A VERY PROPER MOVE.

The New York State Society of the Son of the Revolution has purchased France's tavern, which stands at the southeast corner of Broad and Pearl streets, New York City, and which was originally the mansion of the Lancelotti family. Having later been turned into a tavern, it became as early as 1768 assured of historical memory, for in that year it witnessed the organization of the New York chamber of commerce.

But the event which made this tavern interesting in many other ways and is of greater interest was its choice by Gen. Washington as his headquarters when he entered the city after its evacuation by the British. The great general remained in New York City but nine days. Then at noon on Thursday, December 4th 1783, he summoned the chiefs of his army to meet him in the great room of this tavern. Thus came about the famous farewell meeting of the American generals at the close of that remarkable war. The scene has been described as follows:

"It was one of the few occasions in Washington's life when he gave way to emotion. With the men before him he had shared the perils and hardships of the long years of the war. His words to them were: 'With a heart full of love and gratitude I now take leave of you, and most devoutly wish your latter days may be as prosperous and happy as your former ones have been glorious and honorable.' He drank their health, and after a pause said: 'I cannot come to each of you to take my leave, but shall be obliged if you will each come and shake me by the hand.' Gen. Knox came forward first, and then the other officers silently in turn."

THE INTELLIGENT WREN.

(John Burroughs, in May Outing.) One cold day late in December, on going to my "Slabides," I found a winter wren in the "spare chamber." As I entered the bird did not lose its head at all, as birds usually do under such circumstances. It did not, in a sudden panic, make a dash at the window, but circled about, came out the door, flew down the stairway, passed between two windows without heeding them, and went out the open door. What struck me was the coolness and circumspection of the little bird. It appeared to know all about windows, and that they were not what they seemed, and it appeared to know the lugs and outings of that house like an old occupant. I concluded that the wren may have been harboring there several days, and had become pretty well acquainted with glass and with the stairway opening between the two floors, so that when I came in it wasted no time upon windows, but made straight for all open doors. I hope it had a good feast of dormant flies and spiders while it was under my roof. I have seen the winter wren here during every winter month. It is a hardy bird. It no doubt gets its living on dormant insects, which it finds in holes and all manner of hiding places. It breeds in the Catskills, and I sometimes hear it in April in full song on its way to the mountains.

THE ALBANY SCHOOL BONDS.

A large block of Albany school bonds has just been sold to Eastern brokers on long time at four and a half per cent interest.

The Eastern brokers will make a large profit on these bonds for the mere placing of them.

The local agent and probably some Portland bank will get a big commission for negotiating the sale of bonds.

For the next twenty or thirty years, whatever the bonds have to run, the local bank and the Eastern broker will get pay for collecting the interest.

The interest annually of \$5625 will be sent to New York each year, and the bankers there even make a charge for disbursing the interest.

As against all this, how much better the popular loan plan of funding a debt of that kind, that pays no grafts, and keeps interest at home.

Anniversary of Methodism.

A distinguished preacher and lecturer, the Rev. I. D. Driver, preached the 50th anniversary of the organization of the Methodist Episcopal church in The Dalles, which occurred Sunday, June 6th. The Methodist people of that city appropriately observed the birthday of their church and invited the public to assemble with them and participate in the services.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

Gold Hill, June 3.—Thursday was a gala day at this mining center, and health resort of Southern Oregon. The hills brought for streams of voters all day long. The stores and saloons and streets and sidewalks were crowded with people. Men, women and children came in hackloads, and the new opera house at night held hundreds of well dressed, happy and contented Southern Oregonians. This opera house is the creation of the enterprise of W. A. Carter, well-known at Salem as legislator and successful in gaining the hand of one of Salem's fairest daughters, and among the audience to hear the discussion of expansion principles was not a more attentive listener for his months than John Hughes Carter. Mr. Carter has a large merchandise business in partnership with Mr. Duffield, and quite a law practice besides. The postmaster at Gold Hill is the former editor, Joseph H. Hammersley, who also has a law practice, mostly in mining litigation, being retained as counsel for some of the largest mining operators in this part of Oregon. Everybody here mines or talks or thinks mines.

Agriculture, fruit growing, stock-raising and even lumbering are prominent, but really secondary to mining. Men own fine ranches, have hundreds of head of cattle, and acres of alfalfa, but off in a canyon, or on the gravel bar of some creek, or on the ridge of some mountain, they have interests in the yellow stuff that is scattered with lavish hand all over this part of Oregon. The mineral wealth of these creeks and rivers and mountains is poured into the little town all the year around.

There are creeks and rivers that in one mile of their length, if they could be stripped to the bedrock, would produce enough gold to keep any one man busy the rest of his life counting the interest on it.

The climate of Gold Hill and scenery of Jackson county in this vicinity are so fine that a man would almost prefer to live here in poverty and obscurity, and breathe this air and gaze on these mountains, to having wealth and prominence elsewhere.

A Great Dredger.

The Abbie L. Champlin Dredger Company, has bought a large tract of gold-bearing land six miles from Gold Hill, and put in \$150,000 dredger plant that is taking out \$300 to \$1000 a day of gold dust. The machinery was manufactured at Chicago, shipped out there and installed by Fred Champlin, assisted by the inventor of some of the machinery, Robert Christian. The hull of the scow holding this machinery is 43x57 1/2 feet, and took 225,000 feet of lumber to construct. The machinery includes 425,000 pounds of iron, steel and manganese, the engine consume 12 cords of lumber daily, the freight bill alone costing \$15,000 to land the plant in Gold Hill. It runs day and night, and has electric lights. The dredger consists of 42 buckets that hold eight to 10 cubic feet of gravel, or, heaping full, a yard of earth. These buckets are on an endless chain, and a bucket and one link weigh about a ton. The derrick will dig 50 feet deep. The capacity of the dredger is 45,000 cubic yards per day of 24 hours, the crews working in shifts, and a cleanup being made once a week, and netting 15 to 30 cents a yard in gold. The dredger scoops up the pay gravel from the floor of the gold-laden valley, and the gold is in the gravel from one foot to 20 feet deep after the gravel is reached. There is not much gold on the bedrock here. The great dredger eats away the bank 50 feet high and in a semi-circle of 300 feet.

The 1100 acres owned by the Champlin Company, and 300 acres bonded by them, has all been prospected in the most scientific manner by drilling to the bedrock at hundreds of places, assaying the same, and the dredger does the rest. The gravel is run over the Hungarian rifle style of sluiceway, and is again forced up through a centrifugal pump of immense power and sluiced a second time. The system is conducted in a scientific manner, and is highly successful.

Congressional Party Entertained.

Hon. Binger Hermann, accompanied by Chairman Kubi, of the congressional committee; Hon. W. A. Carter, Hammersley Bros., and the writer visited this great placer mining plant and were shown over the works by Manager Champlin, who proved himself the prince of entertainers to the visitors. The Champlins are handling a number of such properties, and supply dredgers to all parts of the country. They are planning to build a fine home here, as this gravel bed will take many years to work over. Dredger mining does not pollute the streams, and employ a great deal of labor, as it costs about three-fourths of all that is made to get the gold. Southern Oregon has scores of op-

portunities for gold extracting enterprises on a large scale, and mining operations are being developed on a scale hitherto unattempted.

E. HOFER.

X-RADIUMS

The fate of muddy roads or rocky roads will be decided today.

Well, it's a good thing that at least 40 agricultural college students know a cow when they see one.

Why is it that those newspapers which seek to pay tribute to the G. A. R. should constantly remind the survivors of the civil war that death is soon to overtake them? Every utterance, every drawing, depicts the old soldier about to totter into his grave. To be constantly reminded that one is soon to shuffle off this mortal coil is not pleasant, and it does seem some other method of showing reverence would be devised. It's a brutal habit into which our papers have perhaps unconsciously fallen and ought to be corrected.—Astorian.

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We guarantee sufficient proof that Dr. J. F. Cook the Botanist Doctor cures all kinds of diseases after all other schools and doctors have failed, such as cancer, tumors, (external and internal) Gravel, kidney, bone diseases, Consumption, gall stones, rheumatism, dropsy, and diabetes, appendicitis have never yet failed, and female diseases, all the foregoing without the knife, or plaster or poisons, and with no pain to the patient whatever.

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Salem, Oregon

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