

## DAILY CAPITAL JOURNAL

BY HOFER BROS.



## FARMERS AND THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

(Salem Statesman.)

Several papers have "taken a fall" out of the report of the State Grange recently held at Corvallis, complaining that too little attention is paid to the agriculture department of that school, and that decidedly too small a percentage of the pupils are sons of farmers.

One or two papers have referred to the question several times, each attack assuming that the entire trouble is the result of appointing unfit men to the position of regent, one paper going so far as to insist that if more farmers were on the board of regents there would be more farmer's sons attending the college. To prove its position the complexion of the board is given as follows:

"W. E. Yates, lawyer and politician; J. R. Daly, surveyor and politician; B. F. Irvine, editor and politician; J. T. Apperson, capitalist and politician; W. P. Keady, promoter and politician; J. K. Weatherford, lawyer and politician; J. M. Church, banker and politician; W. W. Cotton, corporation attorney; J. D. Otwell, fruit grower."

To read this statement is to perceive its absurdity. The list of names includes nine of the most prominent men in the state who are in no manner politicians in any sense that the word can be used reproachfully.

Mr. Otwell is not smirched with being a "politician," though he was a member of the last legislature, but just where he escapes being a politician is not quite clear. He is even denied the credit of being a full fledged farmer by the explanation that he is "an apple grower," but why a man who raises apples is not as much a farmer as the other fellow who raises wheat is a little obscure.

In proportion to the farmers and stock men of the state, it would not be improper to have one or two fruit growers on the board of regents of the agricultural college. So the appointment of Mr. Otwell is not inappropriate.

In commenting on this matter it is unfortunate that all the appointments have been made by three Governors who are in their several ways excellent gentlemen, and we would rather have it understood as a criticism of the system of giving these appointments.

Certainly a system that results in having a state board of thirteen men to run the farmer's college with but one all-round farmer on the board and he not appointed, but master of the state grange, is not a good one.

The college is an excellent educational institution, and is well managed as such, that an excellent gentleman is president, and it has an excellent faculty and football team, but it has no farmers on the board of regents and a very small attendance of students taking the farmer's course, or studying horticulture or learning to put up cured meats or to manage a dairy, etc.

The people are not interested in personalities, nor in politics, but in the question of making the college more of a farmer's college, and less of a business college, less of a druggist's college, less of a civil engineering school.

A large class in land surveying would be a good thing, as the number of men who can run land lines and plat them is very small. But the point is there is too much done at the school in the way of promoting the professional elements who live off the farmers and not enough to strengthen the agricultural class itself.

How far we have departed from the true idea of an agricultural college, is shown in the two columns of editorials of one paper defending the present board of regents as just about perfect and never saying a word in favor of putting a farmer on the board.

The interesting question arises, what is a farmer? An all-round farmer farms the land for a living. He is not a lawyer, banker, or professional politician. He and his family live off the soil.

An all-round farmer raises grain, stock, cattle, horses and hogs; he drives his team to the plow, raises his family on the farm, and lives on

the farm, and has no other means of living.

An editor who had once been a farmer, or a fancy farmer or lawyer or sidewalk politician who might now farm, or who might own several farms, would hardly be called a farmer outside of a political dictionary.

None of the men who are so keen to be appointed regents of the farmer's college want to make a living at farming, but want those appointments that people may be duped into believing they are farmers or represent the farmers.

Many of the regents of state institutions are not only politicians but already hold other offices, and to get into office ask these regencies to increase their prestige and influence with the people, and there is no "honest farmer" who really makes his living in that way good enough to be a regent of a farmer's college.

The regents of the agricultural college are entirely composed of the official and professional and non-farming class, and they have the power along with other officials to recommend students for scholarships.

Perhaps that is why there are so few studying the farming occupations, and that is why the farmer's college is simply educating more of the professional classes who live off the farmer and producer. One paper makes this point:

"Of the nine members of the board of regents of the agricultural college, three are Democrats and they were all appointed by Republican governors, certainly without any hope of political favors in return and without any desire to cater to 'pampered officialism.'"

They may be Democrats but they are not farmers. They are Democratic politicians, and that is not said offensively, but we all know that a Republican politician, or governor rather, (for he is not always a politician,) may appoint a politician of the other party in return for a political favor, and it may be the rankest kind of politics.

We go back to the original proposition that the State Agricultural college board of regents should be made of more largely farmers than it is if it is to be made more of a farmer's college, as the grange suggests, it should be made.

One writer asks in the frankest manner in the world:

"In what sense is 'pampered officialism' recognized in the appointment to a position where there is not a dollar of compensation connected with the position nor any patronage of any kind?"

We have already shown that the politicians want places on the board of regents because it gives them "standing" among the people as being "connected" with a farmer's college.

It is a great honor. But the farmer himself is not good enough to sit on the same board with the political lords and barons who manage his school, from which his sons and daughters are excluded by no fault of theirs. One champion of the college says:

**OUR FARMERS ARE INTELLIGENT AND ARE BECOMING MORE SO AS THE YEARS GO BY. THEY ARE THE "SINEWS" OF OUR LAND AND THE REAL SAFE GUARDS OF OUR NATION.**

But the sinews and safeguards of the nation are not good enough material to sit on that board of the farmer's college. Our plea is for more recognition of the farmer. The banker, the lawyer, the politician have had too much recognition, not as individuals, but on the board of the farmer's college.

In all that has been said not one word of reflection is intended on the excellent work of the O. A. C. is doing, or on the officers or faculty, or the regents themselves, but let us express the hope that the farmer will some day have his innings.

The farmer feeds us all, the farmer pays the bulk of the taxes, he is about three-fourths of all the people. He is more entitled to recognition in the Agricultural college than anywhere else. If not there where is he to come in for a share of the honors?

Gentlemen, a few more farmers on the board, if you please.

## THE BEST PUBLIC SCHOOLS NEEDED.

By careful employment of resources, by intelligent use of the popular loan, Salem school district has a large annual cash surplus, and is in a position to establish a high school without additional taxes or going into debt.

In electing a new director the people should insist on a candidate who will use the conditions and the means at hand as a good business man would, and give the people the ad-

vantage of this needed step of progress.

In spite of the fact that a tenth grade was added the past year, without additional expense, there are those so conservative as to oppose all progress, even though it can be had for nothing.

Good schools cost money, but the point is this: Elect a director who will favor all the progress possible consistent with good business management. Why should men be put on the school board to prevent progress?

The best public schools are needed to keep our city up to the procession of progress with other cities of the state. Why shall we lag far behind Eugene, Astoria, Pendleton, Baker City, Marshfield and a score more. The best public schools are needed to make the colleges and private schools here prosperous. People will not send their children to be educated in a city where educational pride is at a low ebb.

## AT THE ST. LOUIS FAIR.

Mr. J. C. Godale, of this city, writes from the St. Louis fair that Supt. J. R. Douglas, of Albany, complains that he has small exhibits, and almost no literature from the counties and exhibits of Oregon.

This must be a mistake, as the Hon. Jefferson Myers has given his whole time and attention to that St. Louis exhibit, and Mr. Godale could not have had his glasses on when he was shown around.

Certainly the taxpayers have put up liberally, and enough men are on salary to make a showing there. But there is a suspicion that the management has not included the interests of the whole state.

It is certain that if the Portland fair is run on the same plan that the St. Louis end of it will not get the support it deserves. The people of Oregon have not yet been put in touch with it.

A few old political deadheads, and very few private citizens are at St. Louis, and probably all under pay, some several times, like Prof. Young. The graft is worked as usual for all there is in it.

The mass of the people of Oregon have yet to be touched and to become interested in the fair at St. Louis and Portland. The way the matter is going they are going to be hard to interest. But we must go about it same way.

## WHAT WOULD HAPPEN?

Suppose the United States government would issue no more patents to public lands, except to families that would live on the land?

Suppose that homesteads were to be actual homesteads, and no one could get them but home-builders?

What would happen if big syndicates and corporations could not grab large tracts of the public lands for speculative and monopoly purposes?

Wouldn't this government go to eternal smash if the Weyerhaeusers and Rockefeller could not get a corner on the public domain?

Would Oregon, as a state government, exist if the state would treat its lands in the same manner, and sell them only to actual home-seekers?

It is believed by some that the commonwealth would go to pot if the fraudulent land-grabbing schemes were all nipped in the bud?

But what are the lands for? Is it all a dream that they are for the people? And it is a mistake to say that the people are the home-builders?

If a man and his family can't go and live on a quarter section for at least five years, ought they to have a homestead?

## SALEM BOY'S VICTORY.

The winning of the oratorical honors at Eugene, in a contest between the state universities of three states, by a boy from Salem of the class of 1906, was a great surprise.

Young Mott has given evidences of talent in this direction, and it has been carefully cultivated. But the older students generally get away with these honors.

The daring presentation of a character usually held up to scorn—the free treatment of Benedict Arnold—was in itself a brilliant undertaking, and young Mott won in spite of his hero.

College oratory has been rather in disrepute for some years, and the smaller colleges have been winning away from the big institutions. The standards of oratory have been laid on false ideals too much.

Hence the man who becomes a college orator, stands about ten chances to one of never being a real orator. Mott seems cut out for the tenth one.

## A MERITED APPOINTMENT.

Hon. J. H. McNary was in Albany yesterday, and appointed Gale S. Hill deputy district attorney for Linn county, to take effect July 1. The appointment is a good one, and will meet the hearty approval of all Republicans in that county. Mr. Hill is a young attorney, a son of Dr. J. J. Hill, the well-known physician, and a nephew of Hon. W. Lair Hill, compiler of the 1887 edition of the Oregon code. He is secretary of the Republican congressional committee, and assisted in conducting the last campaign in a very satisfactory manner. Hon. Percy R. Kelly, who has held the position of deputy under Hon. J. N. Hart for the past four years, did not care for the place, and joined with other members of the Linn county bar in recommending Mr. Hill. Mr. Kelly has established a record for economy in dealing with criminals that is second to none in the state.

## Sudden Death of Child.

Louie, the little 15-months-old son of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Tarpley, of Portland, died this morning at 11:30 at the home of H. C. Tarpley, on North Liberty street, where they have been visiting the past week. Last evening the child became suddenly ill, and although every effort was made to save it, it was of no avail.



Do you ever think your boy plays too hard?

I tell you a boy that knows how to play has good stuff in him. He'll work all the better for it bye and bye.

But remember, he's burning up a lot of energy.

Give him plenty of "FORCE."

*Sunny Jim*

A boy can easily grow thin and starved and anemic, even if he does stuff his stomach three times a day—unless the food is the right sort. It isn't what you eat that counts—it's only what digests—the part that is absorbed and builds up muscles and nerves and brain. "FORCE" is the ideal food for growing children, because it not only digests itself but helps to digest the other food substances that are eaten with it.

## X-RADIUMS

What would be squandered on a big Fourth of July celebration would build that connecting line to Dallas. Shall we be patriotic?

Motor lines will be needed for people to get away from Salem Sundays, if Salem is made as dry and closed a town as some would like to have it.

As well try to run a modern newspaper without a linotype, as run a town the size of Salem with only the grammar grades in the public schools.

Marshfield rejoices in a fine new steamer, the Breakwater, put on the run from Erisco to Coos Bay. Over 1000 people welcomed her arrival at Marshfield Friday.

The best city government, the best county government, and the best public schools; that is the trinity of success that will make Salem the best capital city in the northwest. And why not?

Well, Salem is again at the head in baseball. Without higher grades in the common schools, there is not a good foundation for making Salem a

good baseball town, or having any athletics whatever.

The number of people in this city who are tired of having this the largest city in the United States with only grammar grades in the public schools is increasing, and they should be heard from at the school election next Monday.

Remember that Push Club meeting this evening at the police court room of the city hall. That Falls City railroad project would do more to make Salem the commercial center of the Willamette valley than any other one thing we can do. Shall we do it, or back down from such a two-penny undertaking?

Old Steiner ought to be dubbed the "Black Bass King," as it was he who brought the noble fish into the waters of the Willamette at Salem. His market has been supplied with these splendid fish now for some time. The small boy who catches them are willing to give him the title and the profit besides.

## A Theater Party

Will be just the thing for the Queen Esther opera. Splendid singing and acting is assured. You can't afford to miss it. Friday and Saturday nights.

## ROSTEIN &amp; GREENBAUM

Dry Goods, Millinery, Midsummer Bargains

Ginghams, per yard only..... 5c  
Sleeveless vests, at each 5c and..... 10c  
Calicoes, per yard only..... 5c  
Laces and insertions value up to 15c, yd only.. 5c  
Embroideries, per yard only..... 5c  
Bed Spreads reg. \$1, large sizes, each only.... 75c  
Towels, extra good values at each 5c and..... 10c  
Shirt Waists from 25c each

Millinery at reduced prices. Our prices were low enough before. Now, we give still greater bargains.

Rostein & Greenbaum

302 Commercial Street.

Fresh Fruits Served at Our Fountain. Crushed Strawberry Now the Rage

The Spa

NO WONDER THE PLANO BEE IS BUZZING IN EVERY BODY'S BONNET

"How can they do it?" "What is their object?" "What a bargain that Fischer is!" Just stroll through the store and hear remarks like these. Look for yourself, and if you are ever going to buy a piano or organ you will be quick in snapping up the greatest piano offers ever made in this country.

IF THE PEOPLE OF SALEM

Allow any of the bargains we now offer to leave this town unsold it will be because they are not posted on piano values.

HOW ABOUT IT?

Allen & Gilbert-Ramaker Co.

OLDEST LARGEST STRONGEST

SALEM BRANCH 299 Commercial Street

**Your Doctor** Always comes promptly? Ever faithful? Saved your life? Then hold fast to him. We believe in doctors. Ask yours about Ayer's Cherry Pectoral for hard colds, coughs of all kinds. *Lowell, Mass.*