

DAILY CAPITAL JOURNAL

BY HOFER BROS.



SALEM ALL RIGHT.

Business men have no time to spend on tearing down or ripping up policies. Constructive policies are the only kind that will build up an individual or a community.

The charter of Greater Salem, the Census of Greater Salem, better public schools, the Dallas railroad, all add to values of business and property.

Those who exhaust themselves on prosecutions, on Sunday closing and theoretical propositions generally, are well-meaning persons, but they do not help build up the material interests of the community.

There is plenty of constructive, affirmative work to be done, and we can afford to let our neighbors work out their moral and religious problems for themselves in their own way and in their own time.

With better public schools, a better city government, more local pride and prosperity, and less cant and hypocrisy about the community going to the demitition bow wows, this city has a grand future.

HAS PROF. DREW BACKED DOWN.

As an officer of the Law Enforcement League, Prof. Drew now takes the position that if the saloon men do not insist on Sunday enforcement against the cigar and confectionary stores he will not swear out warrants against them.

If there is any moral principle involved in closing up the cigar stores, ice-cream parlors, candy shops, and restaurants on Sunday, why wait for the orders of the saloonists before going ahead?

What moral or religious organization gave Prof. Drew any authority to negotiate with the saloonists of the city before proceeding with the threatened arrests for general Sunday violation?

The consent of the saloon men may never be obtained for enforcement of Sunday closing against any kind of business. The saloon men are the last to favor Sunday closing and Prof. Drew must know that.

Is he not crawling out of rather a small hole, and backing down rather awkwardly in his crusade against violators of the Sunday statute? The people admire a man who never compromises on a moral proposition.

The people really would like to know whether any kind of a business can be conducted in this city on Sunday, and while the matter is before the courts let it be settled thoroughly.

Why not ask the consent of the candy men to swear out warrants against the saloon men? It would be just as logical.

THE DALLAS RAILROAD.

The people of Salem never had so favorable an opportunity to get another railroad as is now offered them by Mr. Couvert.

He is a practical engineer and all his talk and propositions have less buncombe than one generally gets from such a source.

The committee composed of Messrs. Ford, Fry, Barnes and Hamilton have also given the matter careful attention and done good work.

They recommend the subscription of \$72,000 first mortgage bonds, and that Salem People help secure the right of way and terminal grounds.

These recommendations come from business men of the highest standing, and men who will back them with their money and influence with others. There never was an opportunity to get another railroad into Salem on such easy terms, and it should be promptly taken advantage of, or we should stop all talk about wanting railroads to come here.

The result of constructing this road would mean the building up of a substantial city on the west bank of the river. But even that would benefit the Capital City and would make West Salem a part of the city.

THE DIRECT PRIMARY LAW.

This law has been adopted and while The Journal does not like the prominent features of the bill, it will advocate the enforcement of the law. Under this law, unless declared unconstitutional in the courts, or changed by the legislature, all nominations will be made by direct vote of the people.

The Journal would amend this law in the legislature so that it will be less monopolistic, and the expenses not be saddled on the taxpayer.

The principle of the law will be found to be sound but it is too sweeping and may be found inoperative for undertaking too much.

But we shall honestly advocate its application, after it has been properly

amended by the legislature, and shall hope to see it introduced.

With these restrictions and reservations we shall advocate and uphold the law, although we opposed its adoption at the election.

A CITY LIGHT PLANT.

The resolutions of the Commercial club, asking the city council to receive tenders of water-powers for a lighting plant, has attracted wide attention and will result in getting at the facts.

If the city council appoints such a committee probably a number of pieces of property will be offered the city, and there may be one that it will be desirable to purchase.

The council had this up once before and Street Commissioner Griswold submitted a very interesting report, but for some reason there was no action taken in the matter.

The present lighting contract expires in September, and the council will be able to get all the facts before it and not have to take any one person's statements.

Under the present charter the people can have a vote on the matter or even express a choice of several propositions. There is no disposition to crowd the present company selling light in this city.

In fact if a favorable contract can be secured out of the present company then the necessity for municipal ownership may still exist. In fact, there might be business for a city plant and a private corporation. The city of Salem is rapidly outgrowing the present capacity of the lighting franchise.

THE YOUNG MEN'S REPUBLICAN CLUB.

At Salem this is a live organization. In fact there are a number of live clubs in the county.

The boys have in some instances incurred the jealousy of the older Repubs.

But no one can deny their invaluable services in the last city campaign.

In the late county and state congressional election the young men put up a jim dandy fight for the ticket.

The disposition to discriminate against the Young Republicans is passing away in the face of their splendid services to the party.

Training the first voters, leading them gently into the Republican organization, and then taking good care of them after they are in, is a very important service.

The older party leaders will find no truer, more loyal or more intelligent members of the party than the boys in the Young Men's clubs and is behooves them to give them some recognition besides hot air.

THE BILL BOARD NUISANCE.

The bill board nuisance is attracting considerable attention in the eastern cities, where flaring and unsightly advertisements obstruct and obscure the vision. The people of the large cities have commenced a crusade against this form of nuisance and the war is being waged with vigor.

Bill board advertising is a very poor investment and the best way to get rid of it is to let the men who pay their money for that kind of stuff find out that they are losing money and the poster mania will cease to annoy the tender citizens.

The newspapers have been generous in the past with all kinds of fake advertising and the bill board is no exception. The latter has been a favorite method of the circus from the very inception of that branch of amusement and doubtless the multi-colored poster announcing the arrival of the "greatest and grandest show on earth" has contributed largely to the extensive use of the bill boards and stands by advertisers generally.

Just how much good such methods do to the merchant that uses them is hard to determine, but one thing is sure that the business man who pursues the constant use of printers ink is the winner in the long run.

The newspaper is constantly before the public eye, while the bill board is only one of the many sights that we glance at while hurrying through the city or country. People are not in a frame of mind where any kind of advertising would prove profitable when they are after the elusive dollar during the day. They have too many other things to engross their attention to pay much heed to the announcements promulgated from side of some old delapidated and tumbled down shack that "So and so" is offering rare bargains in dry goods, cigars or chewing tobacco, or that "Dr. Cure-all" has a certain specific for baldness.

It takes constant hammering to count for much in advertising and the sign or poster that is up today and down tomorrow is just about that much money expended for nothing.

The large houses of the east are discarding all forms of ads except the newspapers and if we mistake not

the bill board nuisance is about a thing of the past.

Prohibitory agitation may fan the flame of life and let it survive awhile longer, but it is doomed to die a just and meritorious death.

THE GRAND RONDE LANDS.

(Oregonian Editorial, June 8)

A circular has been issued by the general land office, in accord with the act of congress of April 28, 1904, for sale, in pursuance of agreement made with the Willamette tribes and other Indians belonging to the Grande Ronde reservation, in this state, of all the unallotted lands of said reservation, amounting to 26,301 acres. It is ordered and directed that on and after Monday the 1st day of August, 1904, at 9 A. M., and until Monday, the 8th day of August, 1904, at 11 o'clock A. M., sealed bids be received at the local land office at Oregon City for the said lands. Bids will be received for any portion of the lands, as described in the subdivisions; and the secretary may also receive bids in bulk for the whole tract.

The effect of this act, and of the order, issued under it, is likely to be that no bidder for a single quarter section, more or less, according to lines of survey or size of lots, can secure to himself the land, unless he bid an extravagantly high price. The privilege extended to large buyers or syndicates to bid on the entire offering is an invitation to such bidder to grasp all the land by bidding an average lump price per acre in excess of the fixed minimum of \$1.25—enough in excess to make the sum of all the individual offers; and according to the terms of the circular of the general land office of May 19, 1904, the register and receiver will be compelled to accept such lump bid, and thereby shut out every other bidder.

It goes without saying that the lands will fetch a good, stiff price far in excess of the \$28,500 to be paid the Indians—the total minimum—but if congress had it in mind to legislate so that a poor man should have a decent show for a quarter section the act did not wonderfully carry out such intention. The only possible exercise of judgment or discretion on the part of the secretary of the interior is in the words of the act, "that the secretary may also receive bids in bulk for the whole tract of lands thus offered for sale or separate bids for that part of said tract lying on the south side of the reservation, and consisting approximately of 13,000 acres, and for that part of said tract lying on the north side of the reservation, and also consisting of 13,000 acres."

This would permit two syndicates, friendly or otherwise, to offer a semblance of competition by each bidding for one of the two tracts, north or south. The act appears to have been inconsiderately drawn.

The Journal wishes to reprint the above and deliberately ask Republicans to stop and think what it means. That editorial is the deliberate utterance of one of the reliable Republican party papers of the Pacific coast.

Can you not see a great departure from the Republican principle of dealing with public lands in the days of the Founder of Republicanism? Would such a disposition of public lands have been possible in the days of the immortal Abraham Lincoln?

As the Oregonian suggests, did congress legislate in such a way that a poor man would have a decent show for a quarter section? It is to be hoped that the surmises of the above editorial are not correct, and that the reservation will not be parcelled out to two big syndicates.

For the sake of the land department it is to be hoped that the surmises of the Oregonian editorial are incorrect. Has not the time come to quit doing so much for the syndicates and the corporations and save the remnants of public lands for the poor man?

It is the poor man, the laborer, who creates all the wealth to begin with, and then this accumulated wealth steps in and shuts him off the land.

Is the creature greater than the creator, and is the creator of wealth to become the slave and vassal of his creation? There is needed another Jackson in the President's chair who will say by the Eternal, not one more patent for anything but a homestead.

There are needed governors and other officials in the states who will set down their foot and refuse public lands for any but home-builders.

To be permitted to live on the land by the grace of a syndicate or a corporation is at best but the life of a serf.

What becomes of the proud boast of this being the land of the free, the home of liberty, and the nursery of independence?

This is not the cry of Socialism, but the deliberate demand of the thinking men in the Republican party that the land policies of this government be restored to the original intention

of the founders of the party—lands for the people and not for the privileged classes.

X-RADIUMS

It will soon be time for green apple pies again.

Colorado has been "Cripple-Creek-ed" long enough.

That beautiful native shrub, the sweet syringa, is in bloom.

The Salem baseball boys will please keep up their winning ways.

A live town cannot have too much light, or get it too reasonable.

It is not too late for Mr. Henry to build that Chemawa motor line.

The Roseburg high school is to be equipped with new furniture throughout.

Prof. Drew in Oregon is becoming almost as famous as Carrie Nation in Kansas.

Many young men took their best girl to the baseball game today. It cost nothing.

One railroad built to Dallas is worth a dozen electric motor lines that never "mote."

Now the summer maiden hesitates between a vacation at Gladstone park or Yaquina bay.

Great Caesar, a railroad meeting and only one kicker! Salem is coming to the front, sure enough.

Colonel Edwin Stone of the Corvallis & Eastern will be again pressed to produce the original summer girl of his Yaquina bay folder.

Let the Polk & Co. directory people take notice that the new census of Salem shows 13, 287 population, and govern themselves accordingly, as reliable directory people.

We rather admire the gall of a man who is too stingy and small to see beyond his own dunghill, but when there is a chance to get a railroad proposed to build a dozen.

Concentrate on the Dallas railroad, if this city is to double in size in five years. The old game of springing something else when something practical is in reach, ought to be played out.

There is no better investment that any community can make than to have just as good public schools as possible. It is the education of the masses that ensures the perpetuity of free institutions.

The propulsive power for better public schools must come from the people. The most hardened and indifferent politician on any school board will admit the necessity of higher grades if they are called for loudly enough by the people of the district.

Of course, there are a few people who are willing the Salem common schools shall be the lowest grade in the state. But the rest have more pride than that. They say our town is as good as any and we ought to have as good public schools as any city in the United States. That seems to be what Mr. Lee stands for and he is a good business man too.

We ought to be happy. There is another Italian band headed this way. We will hear some more of those classical rigolettis, pizzerinktums and sphaogottis performances that thrill the hearts of true Americans at one plunk a thrill. Then he goes out and kicks himself at having blown his coin, and longs for one stanza of the old Red, White and Blue. Old Grimes is Dead or any other good old American tune he can understand. But let the band come. They will pay hotel bills, buy drinks, and leave more money behind than they take away. In that way Salem is quite civilized. Those foolish enough to part with their shekels add to the circulation.

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For the benefit of those employed during the day, I will keep office hours from 7 to 8 evenings, and from 10 to 12 Sundays. Phone Main 1671. Gray building. 5-24-tf

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