

DAILY CAPITAL JOURNAL

BY HOFER BROS.,
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ELECTION DATES TO REMEMBER.

General election June 4.

FARMERS AND SHIPPERS
CONGRESS

(Continued from page one.)

of husbandry not very much unlike those of modern construction. In the Roman empire, a tract of land was allotted to every citizen by the state itself. In the beginning, a citizen was allowed only about five acres. This was increased later on to 50, and still later to even 500 acres. No greater praise could be bestowed upon an ancient Roman than to give him the name of a good farmer. Cincinnatus was called from the plow to fight the battles of his country; and Cato, the censor, distinguished as an orator, a general and a statesman, is most loudly praised for having written a book on farming. "Our ancestors," says he regarded it a grand point of husbandry not to have too much land in one farm; for they considered that more profit came by holding little and tilling it well; and Virgil says, "The farmer may praise large estates, but let him cultivate a small one." What great wisdom is contained in those words of the ancients, a wisdom that in a great measure applies as well to our own days and to our own state of Oregon. In order to keep up the fertility of the soil, the Roman farmers made use of all manure available; and where it was not available, they plowed under crops of lupines, something like our vetches and clover. The Roman farmers also paid much attention to the breeding of stock. Columell mentions the points of a good milch cow to be: A tall make, long, very large belly, black ears hairy, jaws straight, dewlap and tail very large, hoofs and legs moderate. We could not agree with him on all these points; still it is a remarkable statement. The same author prescribes a very curious treatment of working oxen, as follows: "After oxen get through plowing and come home home heated and tired, they must have a little wine poured down their throats; and after being fed a little, be led out to drink; and if they will not drink, the boy must whistle to make them." In the countries of northern Europe, farming was practically unknown. The Roman historian Tacitus, living about 70 A. D., tells us that the Germans at that time were a barbaric people, living on hunting and fishing. Among the Germans of old it was a disgrace to do any manual labor. Practically, then, the Germans were no better than our Indians, only that they had a white skin. But they were taught how to work. The missionaries that taught

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them Christianity, taught them at the same time how to till the soil. As early as the tenth and eleventh centuries agriculture had made wonderful progress in Germany; and today Germany stands second to none. It has been said that the only good Indian is a dead one. I think that this is entirely too radical. I will modify it by saying that the only good Indian is a working Indian. Teach him to work and you will civilize him; keep him in idleness and he might just as well be dead—as far as the welfare of society is concerned.

But why speak of olden times and ancient people when we have figures at hand showing the enormous importance of farming in our own country? The population of the United States in 1906 is 85,568,159. The number of farmers in round numbers is 26,000,000. In the United States, one man in every three is a farmer; in other words, the American farmers form 35 per cent of our population. And consider for a moment their power of producing wealth. In 1905 the American farmers produced wealth amounting to nearly six and one-half billions of dollars. To comprehend the significance of this vast amount of money, it will suffice to state that it would take all the gold, silver and paper money in circulation in this country, and double the amount of all the United States reserves to buy the bulk of the farmers' 1905 crop. Then the farmers would have left in their barns and stock pens \$673,000,000 worth, a tidy surplus nearly seven times as large as the aggregate wealth produced by all our fresh and salt water fisheries in 1904. Nay, more, the wealth produced by the American farmer in 1905 would suffice to pay the national debt of the United States not once, but six times over, and then leave a handsome surplus of several hundred million dollars.

What does Oregon need? It needs diversified farming and intensive farming. The time has passed when a man can raise the same crops successfully on the same land for a number of years. Our grain raisers in the Willamette valley have found that out. When, sixteen years ago, I was placed in charge of our College farm, red clover was practically unknown. Some people maintained that it could not be raised; but I found out different, and raised it successfully; and now there is hardly a farm that does not have its field of clover. Now we have a regular rotation of crops. One year we raise potatoes and corn for our silo; after these crops the land is in fine shape for a big crop of fall wheat. In the beginning of March the following spring, we sow clover on the wheat. Next year we get two crops of clover, one for hay and the other for seed. After that the land is in trim for a big crop of oats. Then the rotation commences again from the beginning. We do not allow the clover to stand for more than one year, as we have found out that the second year the clover is only about half as good as the first year. Of late great interest is being taken in the raising of alfalfa. The Agricultural college at Corvallis has successfully solved the problem. The Southern Pacific, with commendable enterprise, has distributed seed, inoculating material, and land-plaster; and in a number of localities (including our own farm) five acre tracts have been planted in alfalfa. The Southern Pacific has also distributed booklets giving full instructions as to the raising of alfalfa. From what I have read and seen with my own eyes, I am convinced that alfalfa raising can be made a success in almost any locality. I predict that alfalfa raising on a large scale all along this coast will revolutionize farming. It will be a boon for the farming community. I am an enthusiast as to raising alfalfa. Do you wish to raise the best and most nourishing hay for all kinds of cattle? Then raise alfalfa. Do you wish to have nice, succulent feed for your cows in the dry season of the summer? Then raise alfalfa. Do you wish to raise a greater quantity of hay to the acre than you ever raised in your life before? Then raise alfalfa. Do you wish to have and maintain a fine, up-to-date dairy herd? Raise alfalfa. Do you wish to raise some nice beef cattle at the lowest possible cost? Raise alfalfa. Do you wish to raise hogs and turn out the finest pork in the market? Raise alfalfa. Do you wish to save labor by having a crop that you do not need to plow for a number of years? Raise alfalfa. Do you wish to have a nice, fat bank account? Raise alfalfa.

Oregon needs intensive farming. By intensive farming I mean the raising of the largest crop on a small area. In this connection, allow me to draw your attention to little Belgium. With a total area of only 11,373 square miles, Belgium maintains a population of 7,074,000 inhabitants. With a total

area of 96,000 square miles Oregon had in 1906 only 350,000 inhabitants; or, in other words, Belgium maintains 622 people to the square mile, Oregon about six people. Belgium is cultivated like a garden; than one-thirtieth of its area is unproductive; and its system of agriculture is unsurpassed by any nation. In Belgium, in the words of the poet, "Every rod of ground maintains its man." While we can not expect and perhaps would not want such conditions as that, still we ought to realize more from our land. We ought to employ the best methods and implements of farming. We ought to maintain and increase the fertility of the soil. You can not expect to take crops from the land year after year, without ever returning anything to the land. Therefore save your manure, save your ashes, or plow under crops of vetches or cow peas. Away with the old go-as-you-please, slipshod methods. Make the best use of everything on the farm. Raise more chickens, more apple and pear trees, more small fruits, more bees, more hogs, more dairy cows, more cattle and good horses, and more of everything.

What does Oregon need? It needs good roads. Everywhere good roads have been regarded as a sign of civilization. The ancient Egyptians had hard, paved roads to transport the immense blocks of stone used in the construction of the pyramids. The Hebrews had roads at a very early period; the Song of Deborah speaks of abandoned highways (Judges, V. 6). The Greeks paid much attention to roads. What student of history has not read of the great Roman roads? They were admirably built. Two parallel trenches were first cut to mark the boundaries of the road and to serve as water-drains; then loose earth was removed until a solid foundation was reached; next three courses were laid; the lowest of flat stones of large size; the second of smaller stones of rubble masonry; the third of fine concrete, on which stone blocks were placed. There is the Appian way, extending from Rome to southern Italy—a highway, on part of which it has been my pleasure to walk. Who has not heard of the celebrated Aurelian and Flaminian ways, which have lasted to the present day? During the last Punic war, a paved road was constructed from Spain through Gaul to the Alps. Similar roads were afterwards made in every part of Spain and Gaul, through Illyricum, Macedonia and Thracia to Constantinople, and along the Danube to its mouth on the Black sea; and the islands of Sardinia, Corsica, Sicily and Great Britain were crossed by them. During the reign of Antoninus Pius (A. D. 138) all Roman military roads were surveyed, including six great roads in Egypt. From the wall of Antoninus in southern Scotland, the great chain of communication by land and sea passing through Rome as a center, extended to Jerusalem, a distance of 3740 miles. In ancient Peru, the Incas built great roads, the remains of which still attest their magnificence. The most remarkable were the two which extended from Quito to Cuzco and on toward Chili, one passing over the grand plateau, the other bordering on the ocean. Humboldt, in his "Aspects of Nature," says of the mountain roads: "But what above all things relieves the severe aspect of the deserts of the Cordilleras are the remains, as marvelous as unexpected, of the work of the Incas. For more than a German mile

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our sight continually rested on the superb remains of a paved road of the Incas, twenty feet wide, which we marked resting on its deep foundations and paved with well cut, dark, porphyritic stone. This road was wonderful and does not fall behind the most imposing Roman ways which I have seen in France, Spain and Italy." Prescott says: "Galleries were cut far leagues through living rock; rivers were crossed by means of bridges that swung suspended in the air; precipices were scaled by stairways hewn out of the native rock; ravines of hideous depth were filled up with solid masonry; in short, all the difficulties that beset a wild and mountainous region and which might appall the most courageous engineer of modern times, were encountered and successfully overcome. The length of the road, of which scattered fragments only remain, is variously estimated at from 1500 to 2000 miles. Its breadth scarcely exceeded twenty feet. It was built of heavy flags of freestone and covered with a bituminous cement, which time has made harder than the stone itself." Show me the state of your roads, and I will show you the state of your civilization. In Marion county several macadamized roads are being built. Passing our college, seven miles of macadam road have been built—as fine as any in the country. I will not attempt to tell you how roads should be built. I will, however, venture to say that before doing anything, good drainage is essential. In the lowlands of Belgium, where rock and gravel are hard to secure, they dig trenches five or six feet deep on each side of the road; they keep the road high in the middle; thus the water runs off at once, and the seepage has a chance to escape. In this manner their roads are always in a comparatively good condition.

What does Oregon need? It needs more people. I have no patience with those who would restrict immigration on flimsy grounds. Do not misunderstand me. I do not object to our present immigration laws. I do not want to see America made a dumping ground for Asiatic coolie labor, a dumping ground for the vicious and the criminal classes of Europe; but I would not discourage the immigration of white people who are willing and able to work and support themselves. What would America be without the immigration of the last hundred years? Most of the European nations quickly assimilate with the people of this country. Let us assimilate as many as possible of those that can be assimilated; and let us exclude those that can not. To my mind, it would be utter folly and a sign of narrow minded nativism, to establish an educational test and to exclude those who, forsooth they happened to be born in France, Germany or Sweden, can not read and write the English language. When I came to this country, I could not speak a word of English. I was born and raised in Germany, and I am not ashamed of it. I despise the man who would deny the mother that bore him. I reverence and esteem Germany as my mother, and I love and hail America as the spouse that I have taken to my bosom.

Then let us go to work and advertise this country; let us proclaim its glories everywhere. Holy Scripture says: "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." Let us get good enterprising people from the east, from Europe, from everywhere; and we will make this a most prosperous and glorious state. In spirit I behold Oregon in twenty years from now. The Panama canal will be an accomplished fact. With your deep water harbors, I see this beautiful bay filled with large merchant ships from every country in the world. I see your wonderful resources of timber and coal deposits fully developed. I see your hill-sides covered with flocks of fine sheep and Angora goats and your valleys dotted with beautiful homes. I see your barren wastes in eastern and central Oregon reclaimed by irrigation and teeming with multitudes of happy people.

Oregon, bright diadem in the noble galaxy of states, I hail thee!

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, Lucas County, ss.

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- For United States Senator (For Term beginning March 4, 1907)
- 13 ☒ BOURNE, JR., JONATHAN of Multnomah County
- For Governor
- 14 ☒ WITHYCOMBE, JAMES of Benton County
- For Secretary of State
- 15 ☒ BENSON, FRANK W. of Douglas County
- For State Treasurer
- 16 ☒ STEEL, GEORGE A. of Clackamas County
- For Supreme Judge
- 17 ☒ EAKIN, ROBERT of Union County
- For Attorney General
- 18 ☒ CRAWFORD, A. M. of Douglas County
- For Superintendent of Public Instruction
- 19 ☒ ACKERMAN, J. H. of Multnomah County
- For State Printer
- 20 ☒ DUNNWAY, WILLIS S. of Multnomah County
- For Commissioner of Labor Statistics and Inspector of Factories and Workshops
- 21 ☒ HOFF, O. P. of Multnomah County
- 1st Congressional District
- For Representative in Congress
- 22 ☒ HAWLEY, WILLIS C. of Marion County

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