

After Once Tasting

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### Athletic Sports in America.

The registration committee of the Amateur Athletic union of the United States reported to the annual convention of that body during the year just closed 2,441,518 persons in America took part in athletics in one form or another. Even this large number was said to be excessive of swimmers, wrestlers, boxers, basketball players, baseball players and gymnasts. As the report further showed that only 15,550 athletes were registered for competition in the Amateur Athletic union meets, there may be ground for suspicion of the correctness of the total of more than 2,000,000.

At the same time it is to be remembered that the contestants in the big meets have won their right to compete by a process of elimination in preliminary trials. There are many candidates for place, and these are given "tryouts" with the aim of getting the best ones to strive for the banners, medals, cups and ribbons which are awarded as the prizes. The age of participation varies widely from the youth in the grammar school to the man in the middle life who keeps up his interest in athletics from genuine love of sport. Even when these conditions are borne in mind the statement of totals is astonishing.

Counting out half the population because of sex and making allowance for the boys below the grammar school grade, a showing of nearly two and a half millions is remarkable. When those engaged in the exempted branches of sport mentioned in the report are added and the thousands of men who are athletes for the money thus to be earned the already large total is swelled to a much greater figure. If we include the membership of athletic clubs all over the country and that larger body of citizens once interested as boys in grammar school and high school or as students in college, but now retired from actual contests, the total will be even greater. Even then it will not include many thousands who enjoy athletic sports without having had close personal association as participants on track or field.

The eleven bodies which contribute to the Amateur Athletic union report property devoted to athletics valued at \$24,000,000. These figures also are open to suspicion because the \$12,000,000 reported by the Central association includes \$6,000,000 representing the entire park system of playgrounds in Chicago. With every allowance, however, and adding the valuations of property used for professional contests, the amount of money invested in facilities for athletic sports is a large one.

The Americans are an athletic people. They do not continue their participation in contests into middle life, as is done in England, but there are thousands who carry into active business the principles of health which are taught them in gymnasiums and on the athletic field. It is not difficult to mention many evils attendant upon undue interest in the subject. The opponents of the athletes have plenty of argument which have weight. The meeting of the Athletic union, however, has given its friends their chance to show statistics that these are so surprisingly large as to excite much comment, no one will deny. If the interest in athletics is producing a better race of Americans and a healthier citizenship, as many sincerely believe, then there is additional ground for enthusiasm over the remarkable showing that has been made.—Chicago Tribune.

### Bank Foolishness.

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### TO ORGANIZE OR NOT TO ORGANIZE

Burning Issue Before the Republicans of Oregon Involving the Party Future.

In Portland the Republicans have chosen a machine manager, who was once attorney general as county chairman and the county central committee has decided to go ahead and hold a conference, and then a state conference and suggest candidates for the people to nominate at the direct primary.

This may work and it may not, as party conventions are expressly abolished by the direct primary law as drafted by Mr. U'Ren and others. The Oregon Observer printed at Grants Pass has the following editorial on the subject, that will be read with interest by all true Republicans in all parts of the state. The Capital Journal does not take sides in this matter, as the people have nothing at stake, whether the politicians get together or keep apart, regarding them all as light-fingered gentry who will bear watching. But read the Observer article and judge for yourself:

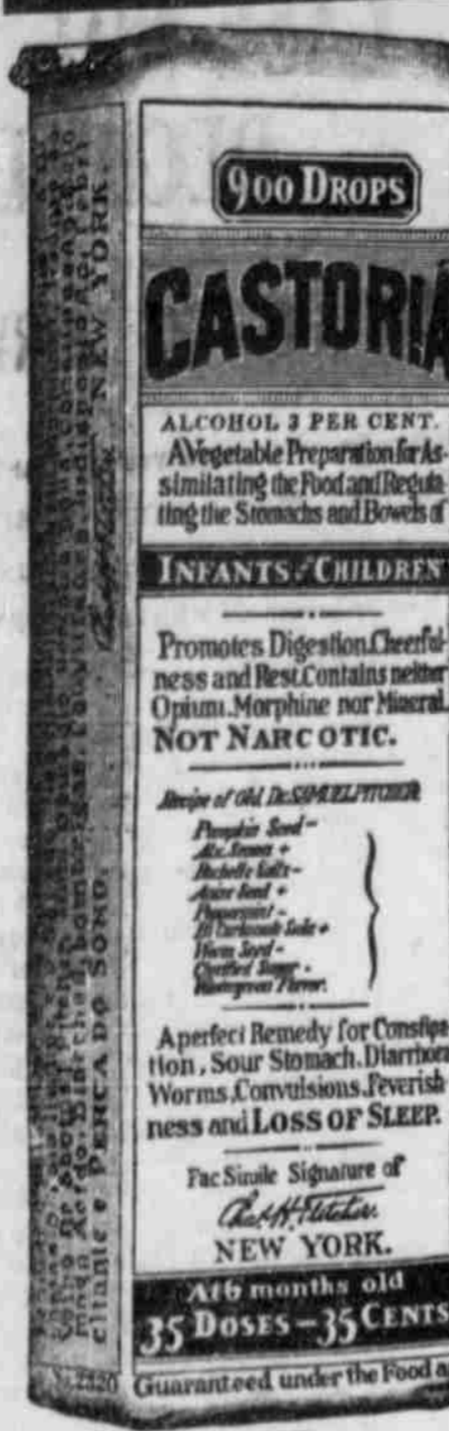
To Josephine Republicans belongs the honor of being the first to form a party organization under the changed conditions brought about by the action of the primary elections law. Last Saturday a meeting of committeemen from the various precincts of the county was held, and the business of filling vacancies and electing officers was transacted. It was no doubt the first political meeting or convention ever held on this continent composed of delegates duly elected by the voters of their respective precincts at a general state election and in accordance with provisions of law.

There is an idea current throughout the state, that political party business cannot be satisfactorily conducted with the machinery provided by the primary law, and it would seem that many prominent and worthy party men are so confirmed in this idea that they will not even make a motion to test the new machinery, but look more or less longingly backward to the old and condemned outfit with its juicy flesh pots. One state general election has been held under the primary law, and it must be said that the result was far from satisfactory. But one robin does not make spring, or one trial prove the merit of a new and somewhat complicated elective apparatus. Moreover, it must always be remembered that all the conditions were against the satisfactory working of the primary law at the 1906 elections. So far as Republicans are concerned the party organization in Oregon had gone to smash by reason of abuses in all its affairs and the degradation brought upon it as a consequence of the land fraud trials. The old organization was dead, and the new organization had not yet come into existence, and could not until the machinery was created by the election then being held. The Republican party was at sea without a compass to guide it, and it was moreover, along with the other political parties, in now and strange waters. No wonder the results of that first really popular election were somewhat erratic. But an experience was gained that is valuable, and some mistakes of 1906 will not be repeated in 1908, and others of greater moment can be avoided by candidly accepting the new conditions and building with the organization material provided at the 1906 election.

The utter demoralization of Republican organization is no doubt acceptable enough to our friends the Democrats, who have substantially benefited by it, but Republicans must not permit that state of its affairs to continue when the remedy is right to hand and needs only to be applied. It has devolved upon Josephine to be the first county to take action looking to the construction of a new Republican organization, more potent because more in harmony with the people, and doubly acceptable because adapted to the new conditions that have resulted from the primary elections law.

Of course, Josephine county alone is but a small figure, but other counties will surely organize on similar lines. It would be folly to do things wrong when they can more easily be done right. No informal organization can exercise political powers not equally available to the authorized organization if desired, while the authorized system has powers that do not attach to any other system. A strong organization is better than a weak one. It is better to harmonize than to antagonize.

Irritation of the throat and hoarseness are relieved immediately by two or three little swallows of Knapp's Balsam, the best cough cure. Grip patients should make a note of this.



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### CORVALLIS & EASTER R. R. TIME TABLE NO. 87.

Trains from and to Yaquina.

No. 1—	Leaves Yaquina	7:15 a.m.
	Arrives at Corvallis	11:00 a.m.
	Arrives at Albany	11:58 a.m.
No. 2—	Leaves Albany	12:35 p.m.
	Leaves Corvallis	1:30 p.m.
	Arrives at Yaquina	5:40 p.m.
	Trains to and from Detroit.	
No. 3—	Leaves Albany	7:30 a.m.
	Arrives at Detroit	12:30 p.m.
No. 4—	Leaves Detroit	1:00 p.m.
	Arrives at Albany	5:55 p.m.
	Trains for Corvallis.	
No. 8—	Leaves Albany	7:55 a.m.
	Arrives at Corvallis	8:35 a.m.
No. 10—	Leaves Albany	2:25 p.m.
	Arrives at Corvallis	3:05 p.m.
No. 6—	Leaves Albany	7:35 p.m.
	Arrives at Corvallis	8:15 p.m.
	Trains for Albany.	
No. 5—	Leaves Corvallis	6:30 a.m.
	Arrives at Albany	7:10 a.m.
No. 9—	Leaves Corvallis	12:30 p.m.
	Arrives at Albany	1:15 p.m.
No. 7—	Leaves Corvallis	6:00 p.m.
	Arrives at Albany	6:40 p.m.
No. 11 (Sunday only)—	Leaves Corvallis	11:15 a.m.
	Arrives at Albany	11:58 a.m.
No. 12 (Sunday only)—	Leaves Albany	12:35 p.m.
	Arrives at Corvallis	1:18 p.m.

For further information apply to GEO. F. NEVINS, Gen. Pass. Agt., Albany, Ore.

### SOUTHERN PACIFIC CO.

Time Card No. 52 Effective Sunday December 29th, 12.01 A. M.

Toward Portland Passenger.

No. 16—	5:53 A. M. Oregon Express
No. 18—	8:40 A. M. Cottage Grove Passenger.
No. 12—	2:45 P. M. Roseburg Passenger.
No. 14—	9:13 P. M. Portland Express.

Toward Portland Freight.

No. 22—	5:00 P. M. Portland Fast Freight.
No. 22—	10:40 A. M. Way-Freight.
No. 226—	11:28 A. M. Way-Freight.

Toward San Francisco Passenger.

No. 11—	11:03 A. M. Roseburg Passenger.
No. 17—	6:45 P. M. Cottage Grove Passenger.
No. 15—	9:56 P. M. California Express.
No. 13—	2:01 A. M. San Francisco Express.

Toward San Francisco Freight.

No. 221—	2:43 A. M. Portland Fast Freight.
No. 225—	11:28 A. M. Way-Freight

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