

WHY NO COMMERCE THERE?

The newest report of engineers with reference to the further improvement of the entrance at Yaquina, is slightly more favorable than some that have preceded it. In it, the engineers say that conditions will not warrant an improvement at the present, but they leave the question of future improvement open, intimating that whenever the commerce will justify, a further attempt to deepen the entrance might be considered.

This matter of a lack of traffic in and out of the Bay is the influence that will unquestionably continue, so long as it prevails to stand in the way of further government aid for the harbor. A peculiar fact connected with the whole matter is, how does it happen that there is no commerce at the port?

A railroad maintains a daily service between Yaquina and the valley. In the latter oats, lumber, hops, fruits and tons upon tons of other products are lying in warehouses, awaiting shipment with no means available for their transportation. Cars are not to be had in sufficient numbers over the S. P. railroad to accommodate the immense traffic that is offered. Time and experience has demonstrated that these products go to market via Yaquina with equal convenience and far more cheaply than by other routes. Then, what unseen and mysterious influence is it that prevents this vast aggregate of products from going to market that way? Why is it that Yaquina has no commerce? Who can explain?

THOROUGHbred OR TINHORN, WHICH?

The police raided a confectionery store at Corvallis last Saturday night and found a poker game running full blast. The discovery is reported as having caused a sensation. Strange what small matters will produce a sensation at Corvallis.—Lebanon Critterion.

Here gambling is referred to as a trifling matter, over which no one should be disturbed. That is the view that all gamblers, whether thoroughbreds or tinhorns, take of the practice. If he be not himself a tinhorn, the remarks of the Critterion man in the above belie him. If he spent more time in seeking and printing news, and less in lying about neighboring towns, his newspaper would better serve its readers and doubtless have more of them.

Newspaper Holy Rollers.

The Lebanon Critterion, which has the Holy Rollers for neighbors, is taking things philosophically, now that it has the situation to face. It says: "We will venture the assertion that Corvallis is and has been for years past tolerating things beside which the Holy Rollers would appear as pure gold beside tarnished brass." The Critterion is just about right.—Albany Democrat.

Here are two recruits for Books and Creffield—Nutting of the Democrat and the Critterion man. Since both editors so love the Holy Rollers, they ought by all means to join. With their fine talents, both would doubtless, in time become apostles, and a swift old Roller each would be. Join 'em, boys, join 'em; at last you are on the right track.

Psalm of a Mail Carrier.

Tell me not in mournful numbers,
Rural carriers have a snap;
For the things that they contend with
Would almost make a preacher
scrap.
He climbs into his little wagon,
Drawn by steeds so full of vim,
As they prance along the highway,
All the people envy him,
Then there comes so winter weather,
Snow drifts, hailstones, mud and mire,
But the mail man's strictly in it,
While the farmer hugs the fire.

Bills for horse feed pour in on him,
Bills for clothing, bills for board,
And the steed once sleek and glossy,
Has a backbone like a sword.
But he bravely struggles onward,
Always trying to do his best,
When he's laid beneath the blue grass
Then he'll have some time to rest.

Lives of great men all remind us
We must work and trust to luck;
If Uncle Sam don't raise our wages,
P. D. Q. We'll sure get stuck!

WHAT RUMOR SAYS.

About new Facilities for Travel Between Corvallis and Albany.

All kinds of rumors are in circulation concerning the proposed new mail route between Corvallis and Albany. The new route is planned by the postoffice department for the purpose of increasing the mail conveniences of Corvallis and vicinity. It is scheduled to leave Corvallis at 6:30 in the evening and to arrive from Albany at 8:30 the following morning. Bids for the service are to be opened at Washington February 2nd, and if accepted, the service will begin March 18th.

The government figures that the passenger traffic on the route will be a large consideration, and it is supposed that this item will be a factor in the bidding. It is with reference to this that rumors are flying. One report is that the C. & E. railroad company proposes to put on a train between the two towns, so scheduled as to do the proposed passenger business. This report is current both in Corvallis and Albany. As to whether there is foundation for it nobody knows. The company has always claimed that its former attempt to operate a morning and evening train between the two points was a financial failure, and on this account, most people place no credence in the report.

Another rumor bearing on the subject is that an automobile service making fast time and maintaining a regular schedule, will go on the route just as soon as the spring roads will permit. As to the truth of either of the rumors, no confirmation can be had. It seems probable however, that better facilities for passing between the two valley towns are likely to soon develop.

TO HOLD TOURNAMENT.

Corvallis Gun Club—Will be big Affair—The Committees.

The Corvallis Gun Club has leased a portion of the flat near Mary's river for a shooting ground and will begin the immediate erection of a shooting stand thereon. At a meeting yesterday a plan was accepted, and W. H. Currin, Alex Rennie, J. K. Berry and John Zeis were appointed as a committee to take charge of the proposed improvements. A wareroom will also be built in connection with which to store target and the traps when not in use.

The Club has also decided to hold a trap shooting tournament on February 22nd to help raise funds for the building committee. Every effort will be made to make this first regular tournament as successful and up-to-date affair as possible. A tournament committee consisting of M. P. Burnett, F. J. Yates, W. G. Emery and Thomas Callahan will wait on the business men of the town to secure merchandise and cash prizes to be hung up on the different events. The more liberal the program, the greater the number of shooters that will be induced to attend and the greater the advertisement of Corvallis. There are a number of lately organized Gun Clubs in Benton county as none of their members are especially expert on the art of smashing bluerocks, it has been decided by the management to bar all cracks from outside localities as the few that would attend would discourage the attendance of amateurs and militate against the success of the tournament. The Club's profit will be derived from the targets thrown and the more shooters the more the profit, hence the shoot will be strictly a Benton county affair, and opened to all its resident sportsmen. The other committees appointed for the tournament were:

Invitation committee—Rennie, Locke, Huston, Ed Smith, K. Heckart.
Program committee—Currin, Emery and Rennie.
Traps and grounds—Reynolds, Elgin and D. M. Smith.
Visitors committee—Burnett, E. Wilson, Fischer and Hencye.
Squad hustler—Dick Kiger and Ned Smith.
Club membership is open to all sportsmen and lovers of trap shooting and the membership fee at present is only \$2, with no dues. This will be raised to \$5 after the coming tournament when all the proposed improvements will have been made and paid for. Alex Rennie, the Club's secretary, is the proper man to apply to for membership.

Lost.

Between Philomath and Gersonal mill, small, black bear skin cape. Leave at Times office.

Dry Wood.

Maple or fir in any quantity. Leave orders at Hodes Grocery store, or order direct to undersigned at phone number 226. Frank Francisco.

A SIGNIFICANT LETTER

About Insurance Rates—New Fire Department to be Organized.

At 7:30 o'clock this Wednesday evening, there is to be a meeting of citizens in the City Hall for the purpose of organizing a fire department. Robert Johnson, appointed by the city council to undertake the rehabilitation of the department has been at work on a plan for several days. Monday and yesterday, he spent among business men and others in a personal canvass of the situation. Without exception all business men were found to be deeply interested, and nearly all promised to be present at the meeting tonight, to assist in the organization of the new department. In addition over forty young men without solicitation, have signed an agreement, in which they volunteer to become active members. It is believed that there are many others who could not be seen, who will also, add their names to the roll of membership of the proposed new department. A letter received a day or two ago from officers of the board of Fire Underwriters at Portland, shows what importance attaches to the proposed plan of rehabilitating the department. The Underwriters it should be explained, are final authority on all matters of fire insurance. No matter in what company an insurance policy is written, it goes first to the Board of Fire Underwriters, and thereafter to the officers of the company in which it is placed.

The letter in question is to a local agent, who wrote the Underwriters respecting the rate on a building about which certain charges had been made. The reply to the inquiry, was as follows: "Referring to your diagram, showing changes in the dwelling referred to, we beg to advise you that this matter will have the attention of our surveyor when he next visits Corvallis. The exposure distance is but a few feet greater than heretofore, and the present rate is somewhat under tariff. With the present condition of the fire department in Corvallis, we do not deem it advisable to issue lower than tariff rates. If, on the next visit of our surveyor, the conditions in the department are not improved, there is a strong probability that all of the rates will be advanced to meet this lax condition of the department."

Everybody is invited to attend tonight's meeting.

CAN MAKE LEVY.

Road Districts can Raise Their Own Money for Road Improvement.

What will probably turn out to be a very good feature of the road law is the new arrangement by which a district has authority to levy such special levy as the taxpayers of the district may desire. It is a regulation similar to that which special taxes are levied in school districts. Any levy up to 10 mills may be levied. After being voted, it is reported to the county clerk, and then it goes on the tax roll. The same as school levies, is collected by the sheriff, and then set aside to the district that voted it. It was on account of the presence in the law of this authority that the county court did not make a higher road levy for this year.

Of course it is too late for the right to vote a special levy to be of use for this year's road work. The tax levy is all made up now, and the extensions are being made in the county clerk's office. The earlier a district has money available under the new authority would be at tax collecting time next year, or probably in February. It is said that some of the districts are considering a plan by which road improvements might be made this fall under the new arrangement. Under the plan the district knows that the money would be available in February or early in March, and acting on this it is proposed that the work might be done this fall with the understanding that it be paid for when the money is collected next winter.

Bids for Wood.

Notice is hereby given that the County Court of Benton county, Oregon, will receive sealed bids to furnish wood for Court House as follows:
35 cords oak grub, or old growth oak wood.
50 cords old growth body fir wood.
Said wood to be delivered at court house in Corvallis, Oregon, between June 1st and August 1st, 1904, to be paid for in county warrants, when accepted by the Court. Bids will be received at the office of the County Clerk up to 1 o'clock p. m. Wednesday, February 3rd, 1904, the court reserving the right to reject any and all bids.
Dated Jan. 16th, 1904.
Victor P. Moses,
County Clerk.

FOR SALE.

Vetch seed at Corvallis Flour Mills

TWO HOT DISCUSSIONS.

The Energy of Which Made all Kinds of Far Fly.

Spiritualism was the subject under discussion Monday afternoon at Spencer's barber shop. The discussion was precipitated by the announcement that a spirit photographer would shortly be in Corvallis for a few days. Everybody knows how strongly some people believe in the doctrine and how strongly others disbelieve in it. There were present about, an equal number for or against the doctrine, and it is needless to state that the oratorical fur flew indiscriminately. If this figurative capillary substance had been actual hair, it would have given the barber shop the appearance of having done a wonderful business, whereas, in truth it was a dull time, from a business point of view. When a man came in for the purpose of being shaved, for some reason he did not take the chair, possibly for the reason that he either became interested in or took part in the discussion, forgetting what he came for. Again, he may have suspected what all of the shop's regular customers know, namely, that it is not wholly agreeable to be under Spencer's razor when any important religious or political question is up for elucidation.

But down in Dille's workshop the other day there was a discussion, as a result of which large quantities of real hair were strewn about the premises. The scrap was between two inventors. One has long, auburn whiskers and the other has short dark hair. After a brief time the altercation narrowed down to a hair-and-whisker-pulling contest, and when all was over, the quantity of auburn whiskers scattered around among the bicycles predominated over the quantity of short black hair so disposed. Friends of the short haired inventor are inclined to boast over the seeming victory of their favorite and have placed on exhibition in the Dille shop a large tuft of auburn whiskers as a trophy of war. On the other hand, partisans of the whiskered man admit the temporary advantage, but contend with much force that the conditions were unequal, and they are ready at any time to match their man again if the terms are reasonably fair.

CORVALLIS BIRDS.

They are to be Used in Stocking Chehalis County, Washington, with pheasants.

Chehalis county, Washington, is to be stocked with China pheasants for the purpose of being used in the game. From his poultry pen in this city, Samuel Bane has sold fifteen pairs of birds which are to be used as parent stock, and they are to be shipped to Chehalis on the 10th of February. At the proper season the pheasants are to be turned loose in the county, where proper restrictive regulations have been made for their present protection. The buyer of the birds is the county court of Chehalis county, under whose direction the importation is made, and subsequent protection guaranteed.

The sale reduces Mr. Bane's stock to 25, of which 13 are females and 12 males. A few days ago he had an order for twenty pairs, which he was unable to fill. If able to secure the more extensive quarters for which he is looking, Mr. Bane will, the coming season, engage more extensively in the business. The business pays better dividends than does the chicken industry, according to the statement of Mr. Bane. There is an easy sale of the eggs at \$2.50 per dozen. A pair of birds sells readily for \$5. The pheasants are less voracious eaters than are chickens, and are accordingly less expensive to keep. The hens are prolific in yielding eggs, three in a former season having turned off 195 eggs. The number is sufficient for 15 settings, which at \$2.50 per setting makes a gross profit of \$47.50 for the three hens, by sale of eggs, alone. Sold as mature birds, the profit would be immensely increased.

For hatching and brooding, Mr. Bane uses artificial appliances, his pens being well supplied with incubators and brooders. A lady who conducts a successful business in the same line at Salem, uses Plymouth Rock hens for hatching and brooding.

Masquerade.

Members of Willamette Grange will give a masquerade dance in their hall, on Jan 15th. The funds raised will be used for building a banquet hall. 25 cents admission for gentlemen spectators. Suitable prizes will be given for best dressed character.

Chairman of Com.

Some Special Plums

During Our Annual Sale.

- 1 Lot boys' overcoats, 5 to 12 years, worth \$5 from to \$7.50, Plum Price \$2.50.
- 1 Lot men's mackintoshes worth \$5.50 to \$6.50, Plum Price \$3.45.
- 1 Lot of men's veal kip boots, worth \$3.50, Plum Price, \$2.48.
- 1 Lot boys' shoes, sizes 11 to 2, worth \$1.50 to \$2, Plum Price, \$1.
- 1 Lot men's shoes, worth \$1.50 to \$2.50, Plum Price, \$1.
- 1 Lot men's black duck coats, blanket lined, Plum Price, \$1.28.
- 1 Lot men's covert ulsters, Plum Price, \$2.69.
- 1 Lot men's odd pants, worth from \$1.50 to \$2.50, Plum Price, \$1 a pr.
- 1 Lot boys' knee pants, worth 50 cts. to 75 cts., Plum Price, 33 cts.
- 1 Lot boys' knee pants suits, ages 5 to 14, some worth \$1.75, Plum Price, \$1.00.
- 1 Lot boys' suit, long pants, ages 12 to 19, some worth \$6, Plum Price, \$2.98.
- 1 Lot of men's wool fleeced underwear, Plum Price, 98 cts. a suit.
- 1 Lot men's frock suits, 33 to 37, worth from \$7.50 to \$15, Plum Price, \$4.98.
- A broken line of "Gold" white dress shirts, \$1.50 and \$2 grades, Plum Price, 75 cents.
- A lot outing flannels, Plum Price 4 1/2 cents per yard.
- A lot embroideries, worth 25 to 30 cents, Plum Price, 15 cents.
- All our cloaks, wraps, jackets, tailor made suits, furs and flannel shirt waists at HALF PRICE.

- A lot of women's outing flannel night robes, 54 cents each.
- A lot lace curtains, 56 cents a pair.
- A lot ladies' eider down dressing gowns, 74 cents each.
- A lot of ladies' outing flannel kimonos, 48 cents each.
- A lot of women's gray and ecru vests and pants, 35 cent grade, Plum Price, 23 cents.
- Broken lines of K. G. Co's \$1 grade 69 cents, \$1.50 grad, 98c. \$12 novelty dress patterns, Plum Price, \$7.90.
- \$8.50 novelty dress patterns, Plum Price, \$5.90.
- A broken line of ladies' and misses' rubbers, 18 cents a pair.
- A lot of ladies' \$1.50 shoes, Plum Price, 98 cents.
- 1 " " 2.00 " " 1.35.
- 1 " " 3.00 " " 1.90.
- 1 " " 3.50 " " 2.49.
- 1 " Misses 1.50 " " .98.
- 1 " " 1.25 " " .88.
- 1 " " 2.00 " " 1.29.
- A broken line of children's shoes at big bargains.
- A few ladies' and misses' mackintoshes, HALF PRICE.

These prices are Spot Cash. Come along and save money and help us to clean house before our New Spring Stock arrives.

Nolan & Callahan
LEADING CLOTHIERS

SALT, — SALT!

WORCESTER SALT.

Don't be put off with any other kind. Insist on having

Worcester Salt!

It's the Best.

HODES' GROCERY,

PHONE 483, CORVALLIS, OR.

For Sale.

Bright chest and rye grass hay, vetch, speltz, timothy, and rye grass seeds, Poland China hogs, Shropshire rams, Good, bright vetch straw, fresh from the barn, for sale at reasonable prices.
L. L. Brooks,

Wanted.

One hundred to 200 head of goats—Address, giving description, of flock and price)
A. J. Johnson, Corvallis.

For Sale,

Twenty shares of stock in the Equitable Savings and Loan Association, Enquire Geo. E. Lilly, First National Bank.

Bucks for Sale.

Oxfords and Grade Merinos—all two years old past, Good sheep with prices reasonable. Call on or address
T. W. B. Smith,
Corvallis

Phone Suburban 43-

Shropshire Sheep.

Ewes and Yearlings by Barkis 130847. Lambs by Freshman 188626. Well bred young stock of both sexes for sale.
GEORGE ARMSTRONG,
Corvallis, Oregon.

H. S. PERNOT,

Physician & Surgeon

Office over postoffice. Residence Cor. Fifth and Jefferson streets. Hours 10 to 12 a. m., 1 to 4 p. m. Orders may be left at Graham & Wortham's drug store.

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Pays highest prices for all kinds of Live Stock. Satisfaction guaranteed. Twenty years experience.