

Weekly Rogue River Courier
COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER.

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THURSDAY'S VICTORY.

The vote for the railroad bonds at the special election last week is an even greater victory than that of last December. True, the majority has been reduced by a fraction, but it is remarkable that after the differences and the disappointments of the year the personal factors that have injected into the campaign, 86 per cent. of the people should vote one way. It proves that the progress and prosperity of the community do count for more than mere individual differences, and that the spirit of the community is a commendable spirit. It shows that a sentiment in this metropolis of the Rogue is for big things, and that a solid front will be presented against a common enemy. This solidifying of interests, this evidence given the world that Grants Pass knows its own mind and stays with it, is worth all that the railroad to Wilderville will cost. It puts this city on the map of the world, and every citizen feels a greater pride in himself and his community.

The direct result of the vote will be the completion of the road to the Applegate valley, and the giving of the promoters of the coast road something definite upon which to operate. So long as there was an element of uncertainty regarding the action of the city of Grants Pass in lending assistance to the project, just so long was there uncertainty in the attitude of the financial interests that must be brought into the proposition. The few busy-bodies who were so active in opposing the bonds made as much noise as the Kansas coyote that we read about, but they were just about as effective when the light of the ballot was shed upon them. The outsider did not know it was all noise, however, till after the count of the votes.

THE FIVE REFERENCED MEASURES

If a state was ever put to unnecessary expense, it is Oregon in being called upon to expend \$100,000 or more in a special election through the referring to the people of five measures passed by the last legislature. There was no especial call for the referring of a single one of these measures, and had it not been for the fight made by selfish interests against the state university it is not likely that any of the five would have been referred. A special election, with all its expensive machinery, is required, as there is no general election this fall.

Of the five referred measures two are appropriation bills providing funds for the erection of new buildings and the repair of old ones at the state university. It was antagonism to this institution that led a Portland attorney to head the movement to refer the bill to the people, his plan being to ultimately consolidate the university and the state agricultural college located at Corvallis at some place other than Eugene.

The time is past for the talk of consolidation of these institutions, even if there had been merit in consolidation. Each has its work mapped out, and neither can be spared from the state's educational system. Consolidation is the dream of the man with an ax to grind, and the defeat of the two bills will but cripple the university for the time being and will result in no benefit to the state at large. The amount involved in the two bills is \$165,000.

The sterilization bill, the purpose of which is to authorize the state board of health to perform such surgical operations as it shall adjudge upon habitual criminals, moral degenerates and sexual perverts, both male and female, defines the persons coming within the operation of the measure, and the rights of the unfortunate seem to be sufficiently safeguarded. The right of appeal to the courts is given by all persons coming within the scope of the measure, and there seems no danger that any of the rights of society will be trampled upon or that the law will be unjustly enforced.

The county attorney act was intended to give to each county in the state a prosecuting attorney instead of the present system of district attorneys with deputies for part of the counties. The law establishes the salaries which shall be paid, the attorney for Josephine to get \$1,200, the same salary that is now paid the district attorney's deputy for this county. This bill should pass as the argument in its favor is obvious.

Of greatest importance among the five referred measures is the Workmen's Compensation act, the purpose of which is to create a state industrial commission composed of three members, and to provide a fund for the compensation of injured workmen employed in the state in hazardous occupations. This bill was drafted by a commission upon which all the affected interests were represented, and was carefully considered, both by the commission and by the legislature, which passed it by an almost unanimous vote.

The act provides that any employee of any employer subject to the act, or his dependents in case of death, shall be entitled to compensation according to the schedule contained in the act on account of any injury sustained in the course of his employment, regardless of the cause of the injury, whether the result of negligence or otherwise, save only the willful act of the workman committed for the purpose of sustaining the injury. The schedule fixes various amounts, depending on the severity of the injury, and in case of death depending on the number and relationship of the persons dependent on the deceased.

The advantages of this plan to the workman and his family will be apparent when it is recalled that under the employers' liability method, now in vogue, only about one workman out of eight has a legal claim for damages.

The compensation provided by the act is exclusive and neither the workman nor his dependents have any claim against the employer, unless the employer has refused after demand to pay his required contribution to the fund, or unless the commission entrusted with the administration of the act determines that the employer has violated the general statutes of the state with respect to some safety appliance and the injury has resulted from such violation.

The fund from which compensation is to be paid is made up from the following sources: Three-fourths to be paid by the employer, one-eighth by the workman and one-eighth by the state. For a short period, and until a surplus required for the necessary security is provided, all employers pay at the same rate, but thereafter the payments depend upon the care exercised by each employer and the number and extent of the accidents occurring in his plant or works.

Under the system in vogue in Oregon at the present time, probably not more than 12 or 15 per cent. of the 28,000 injured employees could have recovered damages for their injuries. In the courts, and experience shows that at least one-half of the amount so recovered would have gone to the attorneys and for other items of expense that are a necessary part of the liability system.

Figures compiled by the Oregon Bureau of Labor show that in the month of July 372 persons were injured in the industries of this state and that in five cases the injuries terminated fatally. In August there were 368 injured and eight killed. An average of one life every other

day is the price paid by labor for the conduct and upbuilding of industry in Oregon. In Washington, with its more varied and extensive industries, one life is lost every day in the year.

A voter is safe in voting for the passage of each of the five referred bills. They were enacted by the legislature and approved by the governor after much argument and consideration, and while all laws that pass the legislature are not good laws, the five to be voted upon include some of the most meritorious measures that passed the 1913 legislature.

A COUNTRY OF MINERAL WEALTH

Stories of rich finds of gold in southern Oregon have long since ceased to excite wonder or to create stampedes. For sixty years these discoveries have occurred with singular regularity, and it has come to be an accepted fact that the hills are filled with unbound wealth. In the earlier days the attention of the prospector was given almost entirely to the search for the rich placers in the creeks and the rivers, and these were hastily worked over, the cream taken, and the miner hurried on to other "diggings." Some of this ground has been worked over three and four times, while other ground is still untouched.

All miners know that where there has been such an amount of placer gold there is sure to be quartz leads that will return rich values, but the development of these quartz claims has been retarded by the difficulty of transportation. Some few mills have been carted in, and other mine owners have built arrastras, and with these crude methods have extracted much gold. Some copper mines have also been developed in a way despite the handicap of no transportation facilities, the richness of the ore making it possible to employ expensive methods of handling. With the coming of a railroad the quartz mines and the great deposits of copper will become among the chiefest of southern Oregon's resources, and thousands of men will be given employment in making this wealth available. Meantime southern Oregon is almost virgin ground for the prospector, and while it is one of the oldest mining districts in the west, it is continually developing new things and springing new surprises.

THE COW FOR PROFIT

"There are only four breeds of special dairy cows that are really worth considering by dairymen of this state," says Dr. James Withycombe, director of the College Experiment station. "These four are the Jersey, Guernsey, Holstein and the Ayrshire. Each of these breeds possesses a superior adaptability to certain conditions.

"On the small farm or on high priced land where the production of butter fat is the principal object the Jersey is the best. If the production of high class milk for city trade is desired, no breed surpasses the Guernsey. Guernsey milk is highly colored and excellently flavored. In sections where there is an abundance of cheap feed, and milk is to be produced for condensing or cheese making, no other breed equals that veritable milk machine, the Holstein. Under more rugged pasture conditions where a good quantity of milk is desired without heavy grain feeding the Ayrshire is the cow that best fills the bill."

S. P. OFFICIALS KNOW.

The high moguls of the Southern Pacific railroad sure know what the Grants Pass spirit is like. It was only a coincidence that a special train of four cars should stand on the siding near the center of the city Thursday night and that the slumbers of the biggest guns of the Harriman interests should be disturbed by the booming of the little brass cannon that announced that Grants Pass, tired of waiting upon unkept prom-

ises of the S. P., had decided to help herself, and that she had voted to build the railroad to develop the country to the west without help from the S. P.

Chief among those who occupied the four special cars, and who tried to sleep while Grants Pass celebrated, was Julius Kruttschnitt, general manager, director of maintenance and operation of all the Harriman interests in the United States, who had come all the way here from Chicago to hear the Grants Pass spirit jubilate. With Mr. Kruttschnitt was Wm. Sproule, president of the Southern Pacific, whose headquarters are in San Francisco, as well as engineers, superintendents and high dignitaries without end. Few people knew of their presence here, and it was not premeditated that the cannon should rattle their windows and break in upon the visitation of Morpheus.

It is announced that the railroad party was on a tour of inspection over the system, and that it stopped wherever night overtook it that its travels might all be made by day. It had come from Dunsmuir Thursday, and got here just in time to help with the big celebration that will mark the escape of a community from bondage to the great corporation whose destinies they control.

And from now on they will not need to hunt up an Espee timetable to tell you where Grants Pass is located.

THE TIDE HAS TURNED.

The publication of the statements of the three banks of Grants Pass shows that finances are in a much improved condition throughout this district, the deposits of each bank showing extensive increases. This is a direct result of marketing of the crops of the valley at prices that leave big margins for the growers, and bring many thousands of new dollars into the country. It can truthfully be said that the tide has turned, and that the dollars are now coming toward the Rogue valley instead of away from it. There is an increase from year to year in the production of the valley, not only through the new orchards that are coming into bearing, but also through the growing of a greater variety of

CLASSIFIED ADS

MISCELLANEOUS

GOATS—18 Angoras and 6-year-old Bully for sale at \$60.00. Billy worth \$30. Inquire J. S. Hill, Merlin.

TO ALL KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS—You will please take notice that Thermopylae Lodge, No. 50, holds its conventions in the W. O. H. hall on the first and third Tuesdays of each month; that the regular conventions will be held at 7:30 o'clock p. m. from November 1, 1913, to April 30, 1914. Remember the place; remember the time; prove your faculty to remember by appearing in person. J. D. Wurtebaugh, chancellor commander.

ANYONE wishing to lease a placer mine will apply to C. D. Sexton, Hugo, Oregon. 10-31-13

TIMBER LAND for exchange, with part cash. Approximately 2,000,000 feet of Oregon pine, with 10 per cent. of sugar pine, on 160 acres, 15 miles east of Grants Pass. \$4,500 a reasonable valuation. Would take \$1,500 or \$2,000 in cash, remainder in Grants Pass lots or Rogue River valley farming land between Grants Pass and 10 miles out, or Crescent City lots. Address Marie E. Hall, Long Beach, Calif., care of General Delivery. 10-31-13

NOW IS the time to order your fruit trees for fall setting. Cheaper than ever, I handle only the best. George H. Parker, 403 West D St., Phone 285-Y. 10-31-13

PULL YOUR STUMPS—I will pull all your stumps up to 10-inch diameter for ten cents each, and larger ones for same if don't have to use powder. If powder is used to shake them, the cost of the powder extra. Sam Cahill, 605 West C St., Grants Pass. 10-31-13

RANNIE, the plumber, is ready at any minute to repair your plumbing 609 H street. Telephone 140-R. 4-2-13

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products. There is also an awakening in the mining industry, and there is a continuous stream of wealth from this source. Naturally this new wealth from field and orchard finds its way to swell the deposits of the local banks, and this great increase which their reports show speaks volumes for the prosperity of the district.

EXPERT TESTIMONY IN MENDEL BEILIS TRIAL

Kieff, Russia, Oct. 30.—The taking of expert medical testimony continued today at the Mendel Beilis trial. The prosecution's witnesses uniformly upheld the theory that Andrei Muschinsky, the 12-year-old boy whom Beilis is accused of killing, was the victim of a crime answering the descriptions of the alleged "ritual murders." Those for the defense held the opposite view, adding that two persons must have been concerned in the butchery, that the hairs found on the boy's clothing were evidently from a man's beard and that they were not of the same color as Beilis'.

MILLIONS OF SPAWNING SALMON ARE KILLED

Washington, Oct. 30.—Because blasting operations near the Fraser river killed more than a million salmon about to spawn, the department of agriculture today advised artificial propagation in Washington state and in British Columbia to offset a threatened fish famine.

WIRE BRIEFS.

Los Angeles, Oct. 30.—Peter Stormberg, recent arrival from New Orleans, stepped on a banana peel, dived through a sidewalk trap door and landed in the lard vat of a butcher shop. He got a bath at the police station.

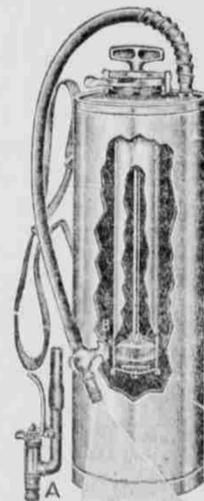
Los Angeles, Oct. 30.—Several articles of intimate feminine apparel, dangling from a trolley wire, tied up traffic on the Grand Avenue line here today. A nimble conductor finally unwound them from his trolley wheel.

Portland, Oct. 30.—That by communing with the spirits Elliot Tuford and wife in Portland became convinced their daughter in Los Angeles was being ill-treated by her husband and induced her to return to them, was the allegation of Harry Platt, the son-in-law, in suing them for alienating his wife's affections.

Oakland, Cal., Oct. 30.—Mrs. Laura Osborne, married 28 years, prefers her clubs to her husband. She filed suit for divorce when Osborne declared "Women's lodges and clubs were the downfall of all women."

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