

**St. Helens Mist**  
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David Davis, Editor.

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**COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER**

**WORK YET TO DO.**

The opening to navigation of the Columbia river and its tributaries far into the interior of the Inland Empire, with all the attendant expense in cash and effort, both public and private, should mean a great deal in a commercial way to the entire West. This event is to be celebrated in a most appropriate manner during the next two weeks, an occurrence in which the whole country is intensely interested.

The Columbia and Snake River Waterways Association has been a power for good in all it has undertaken in the way of waterways development and its functions have been carried out to the limit, with the result that the accomplishments have been fourfold.

With all that has been done the greatest and most important thing yet to do is the establishment of shipping facilities for carrying the product of the great Inland Empire away from our shores by ships owned marine. This feature of the work has been neglected greatly to the detriment of the entire coast. Out of Portland at this time there is plying but one locally owned and registered vessel. The Port of Portland is the greatest fresh water port on the Pacific. The Columbia valley is the greatest producing section west of the Rocky Mountains, and all the products of that great area are carried away from our shores by ships owned elsewhere. Such a condition is a sad commentary, indeed. Especially is this so when investment in that line of endeavor yields such good returns. Portland commercial bodies have spent hundreds of thousands of dollars in subsidies and bonuses to foreign ship-owning concerns during the last fifteen years, with the result that today there is no assurance of any continued activity in shipping further than that which meets the immediate profit and convenience of the owner of the vessels.

With the accomplishments of the organizations which have brought an open river from the sea to the heart of the Inland Empire, the next great work is the establishment of a merchant marine. Perhaps this will be so. Nothing more important now remains to be done.

**WOMEN DO MEN'S WORK.**

Zola in "La Debacle" tells how a peasant of the neighborhood went on plowing his field while the battle of Sedan was in progress. Soldiers were fighting close at hand, but that was their business, while his was to break up the soil and get it ready for autumn planting. We need not believe that French peasants of today have been equally indifferent to the war to credit the statement that France is getting in big crops. The section of France yet touched by the war is but a fraction of the total area. Several of the great winemaking regions have not known the war by actual experience, and there is no reason to doubt the assertion that the vintage of 1914 is more abundant than usual. France has an area of more than 267,000 square miles, and the war is confined to one of its corners. The great south of France has seen no hostile soldiers, and its industries have been affected only by the withdrawal of men to do their military duties. Women and boys are taking the places of men in the field and anyone who has seen French peasant women at work will not need to be told that they are stalwart and industrious and able to keep the fountains from neglecting their share of the labor.

**MARKET IS BROAD.**

The possibilities of the fruit and vegetable canning industry are limited only by the capacity of the plants and the disposition of producers to provide the raw material. The demand for the product of the cannery is becoming greater every year, due to the growing tendency of the people to reside in the cities. Seventy-four per cent of the population of the United States resides in the cities, and consequently are non-producers. The cannery at St. Helens will consume all the produce the surrounding country can provide. The prices offered by the local institution to the producer should be an encouragement to renewed effort.

**PAVING SHYLOCKS.**

One of the most important things to be guarded against when the work of hard surfacing of roads is taken up in this county, will be the cheap forms of paving. At Oregon City and Spokane at this time fights are raging over cheap forms of paving. At Salem and in other cities of the Willamette valley are miles of paving of the cheaper grades lying in a heap of ruins. Down in Clatsop county, on the road leading from Astoria to Warrenton, the experimental paving installed last fall on Columbia highway is a failure. There is no worse form of infliction than a system of paving put down by a bunch of designing politicians, and one of the serious mistakes made by property owners and taxpayers is the clamor for cheap work. It is of no value whatever. It does not make any difference who does the work so long as the property owner and taxpayer gets one hundred cents of value for each dollar expended in this work. Oregon seems to be overrun with a lot of cheap paving institutions. Their meddling and graft has cost the people of this state hundreds of thousands of dollars. Let's fight shy of them.

**AGE OF SPECIALISTS.**

This is an age of specialists. Remarkable advance has been made by these specialists along the lines of human endeavor. In surgery and in the treatment of human ailments, almost miraculous deeds are performed. In fact, in applied science everywhere the specialist reigns. It yet remains that the specialist treats an almost insignificant number of individuals compared to the total population. It yet remains that the crumbs of knowledge from the tables of the specialists would be of inestimable benefit to the people at large could they be distributed efficiently. And when these fragments from the tables of the specialists are finally gathered after the banquet, there will be found 12 baskets, whereas the specialist himself can only appropriate "five loaves and two fishes."

**TAX LIBERATION.**

The Tax Liberator, like most of the taxpayers in Oregon, firmly believes that there is much need for greater efficiency in public expenditure. It believes that there is waste, extravagance and mismanagement in the administration of public affairs in Oregon. Searching investigation, open discussion and public censure—these and these only—will bring relief and lower taxes. But such criticism must be intelligent, honest and fair. If public officials who are faithful and competent are classed with the unfaithful and incompetent, no results can be obtained. We must, therefore, be just as ready to commend the worthy as to condemn the unworthy.

**OUR DOMESTIC TRADE**

In all our talk about the desirability of foreign trade, we needn't forget that our domestic trade is by far the biggest trade in the world. Our 100,000,000 people constitute a market never matched by any other nation, and the steady growth of population insures that it will always be of more value than all other accessible markets. Our chief basis of prosperity consists in producing things and selling them to ourselves. We want all the foreign trade we can get, but we do not want any of it at the expense of crippling our own domestic trade.

If there is any doubt that the farmers of Columbia county want a County Fair, it can be readily removed by asking them. The County Fair does more good for the farmers of a community than any one factor in rural life. We will have a bigger, better and more interesting fair this year than ever before. Boost it along.

Every new line of railroad adds many millions to the value of a broad belt of farming land on either side of it. Every new line of railroad means the growth of new industries which create a market for agricultural products that must be met in the immediate region.

An official call has been issued for the sixth annual convention of the Columbia and Snake River Waterways association, which will be held at Astoria May 7 and 8, 1915. The meeting will wind up the week-long celebration of the opening of the Celilo canal.

The action of the Russian government in forbidding the use of vodka (alcoholic liquors) by its soldiers and civilians, followed closely by similar action by the other belligerent nations, ought to boost the market for Oregon Loganberry juice.

If the farmer has been diligent in his farm work this spring his reward should be abundant this fall. All other conditions have been perfect.

**INDUSTRIAL REVIEW**

Eugene is to build a new city hall. Archie Mason will install a paving plant at Eugene.

Stayton has voted \$15,000 bonds for a high school.

James West has installed a cheese factory at Wedderburn.

T. H. Barry has resumed the canning of crabs at Empire City.

A fruit drying and canning plant is being promoted at Glendale.

Mayor-elect Bell of Eugene, wants less legislation and lower taxes.

A telephone system will be installed from Allegany to Loon Lake.

The Irvington Club at Portland will build an \$80,000 club house.

Corvallis women are raising funds with which to build a club house.

Another bank is to be established at Marshfield about the first of May.

City taxes at Eugene went up from \$14,500 in 1906, to \$125,000 in 1914.

C. O. Anderson has established a jewelry manufacturing plant at Albany.

A gold dredging plant has been installed on Clark's creek, near Baker.

Astoria has voted down an ordinance creating the office of plumbing inspector.

The paper mill at Lebanon has been merged with the Crown-Willamette group.

An auto truck line has been established between Baker and Eagle and Pine valleys.

The Corvallis Commercial Club is working industriously to get a gas plant, city and county park.

Two fraternity houses to cost \$25,000, are to be installed at the Agricultural College at Corvallis.

The State University at Eugene will erect a \$40,000 building to take care of the law department.

The Portland Railway, Light & Power Company pays one-sixth of all the taxes paid in Clackamas county.

The Western Union Telegraph Company is installing substations on the Oregon Electric Railway system.

At Pendleton a contract has been let for the construction of a natatorium at Round-Up park, to cost \$8943.

An auto bus line began operation from Medford to Grants Pass April 15, in opposition to the Southern Pacific.

The plant of the White Pine Lumber Company, near Baker, has resumed operations, employing 160 men.

Dallas is to extend the pipe line which supplies the city water system, to Crab creek, a distance of eight miles.

Klamath Falls officials have bolted from a proposition to buy road machinery through the mail order houses.

Farmers in the vicinity of Elmira will reclaim several hundred acres of land by the installation of a drainage canal system.

Down in Lane county the citizens' economy programme, recently inaugurated, has lopped off two county school supervisors.

At Fossil on May 5 bids will be opened for the construction of a system of roads and bridges from Fossil to Cottonwood creek.

The citizens of Roseburg will vote June 9th on the proposal to issue \$200,000 of bonds to construct a railroad to Cascade forest reserve.

A new sawmill has just been established on the line of the proposed Grants Pass-Crescent City railroad, a short distance from Grants Pass.

The Eastern Oregon Lumber Company has started construction on a sawmill at Enterprise. The plant will be equipped with a double-cutting band saw.

For the ten months ending April 1, the cost of building construction at Eugene totaled \$439,088, as against \$284,924 for the corresponding period last year.

The Portland Public Docks Commission is asking the citizens to authorize a \$900,000 bond issue for the purpose of installing a municipal grain elevator.

Blue Mountain Grange at La Grande has adopted resolutions opposing sportsmen shooting crows, magpies and other birds, as they save crops from cutworms.

Citizens of Linnton are asking the City of Portland to grant them a 25-year franchise to operate a railway line between Linnton and Portland. The United Railways Company has abandoned its rail line between those places.

**SOME HOMEY FACTS.**

We've got to raise some spuds as well as roses.

Stop hollering and boosting and go to work.

A mile of new railroad is worth a thousand new laws.

Quit relying on our wonderful climate and start something.

Go out after business and don't wait for it to run you down.

Politicians and laws cost money and hurt business and industries.

Going away from home to trade is a quick way to kill your town.

Cartoons representing Oregon as a rheumatic old man with long whiskers, should be prohibited by law.

**CORRECTION.**

Goble, Ore., April 20.—Editor Mist.—I wish to correct a mistake which appeared in the last edition of your paper concerning the entertainment given in Goble on April 3. The article in your paper stated that the program, refreshments and dance were given by the "Get-together" Club. The program was given exclusively by the Goble Literary Society; refreshments were later served by the "Get-together" Club, and some of the Redmen members present had charge of the dance which followed. LEORA ALEXANDER, Sec. Goble Literary Society.

**TWENTY YEARS AGO**

The Mist, April 19, 1895.

C. H. John was appointed interpreter in the justice court Wednesday.

A. H. Blakesley is engaged in deepening the ditch which drains his garden west of town.

The steamer Vulcan took two large rafts of logs from Muckle Bros. boom in Scappoose bay this week.

The birds have been doing considerable damage to the cherry crop in this section by cutting off the blossoms from the trees now in bloom.

Owing to some misunderstanding Mr. M. C. Gray, telegraph operator at this place, will not go to Mojave, Cal., but will remain in St. Helens, for which our people express satisfaction.

Mr. W. B. Dillard recently purchased a shellboat from one of the boatmen in Portland, that is a beauty in respect to both model and appearance, and Mr. Dillard takes great delight in testing the boat's worthiness in regard to riding the rough water.

The firm of Bays & Jeffery made an assignment in Portland last Saturday. The firm have been engaged in street contracting for several years. They own a number of rock quarries back of St. Helens and a large tract of land at and surrounding the mouth of Milton creek. Their liabilities are said to exceed by far their assets.

Mr. William H. Dolman of this place, has devoted a good deal of time to pomology, and to counteracting the ravages of fruit pests. In the interest of Columbia county fruits, Mr. Dolman advises the formation of a Pomological Society, having for its principal objects the interchange of personal efforts made and the results obtained in preventing the ravages of and destroying fruit pests. It is proposed that any person—man or woman—owning or controlling ten or more fruit trees, may be eligible to membership without the payment of any fee or dues therefor.

Enough haze in the air to characterize this as Indian winter.

Peace continues to be rumored. That's not enough. Name der Tag.

French revolution lasted ten years—some historians allot it a longer period. Give the Mexicans time.

Mexicans have a written constitution as good as ours; and a constitution can be made a scrap of paper.

Why is it that chop suey can't leave its happy home and get upon bills of fare outside its peculiar haunts?

Washington Post suggests for the doorway of certain wards in all hospitals: "Abandon dope, all ye who enter here."

Aren't we all supporting President Wilson in his foreign policies, as the Hon. Champ Clark advises? What else can we do?

There may be a bunch of sad songs inspired by the war, but please don't bring them across the water. We've got grief enough.

Looking over the names on the map of Russia, let us hope the war will not be extended far into the interior of that country.

Thomas Jefferson was the greatest man in the Democratic party, but Theodore Roosevelt is undoubtedly its greatest benefactor.

People who have made up their minds that they would "never live in this flat another year" are now busy finding one no better. For a' that and a' that a flat's a flat for a' that.

It costs \$283 apiece to take salvation to the Fiji Islanders, while saved Philadelphians cost only \$1.50 each, all told. Any business man will draw certain conclusions from these figures.

A suggestion is made by a Chicago writer that the national capital be moved there. Chicago should get Canada annexed, then it would be nearer the center of the country. That may take some time.

After serving on the sea for ten years a Washington (Pa.) man has gone back to his barber business. He clips the rolling mane instead of sailing it. And perhaps ten years ought to be served for perpetrating this.

There must by this time be miles of archives filled with all sorts of legislative investigations of everything under the sun, but what do they lead to? Interesting for antiquarians to delve in centuries from now.

**PROMISES.**

Promises are fragile articles which most of us toss back and forth with the utmost freedom and carelessness, imagining that we have a juggler's skill. They are often scattered to the right and left as crumbs are tossed to birds, and they are usually swallowed as eagerly as the birds swallow crumbs. A promise cannot be kept until it is first given, and it should not be given except to be kept. He who does not keep his promises gives himself away. A present promise is a future debt. It therefore behooves us to be judicious with our promises that we may be able to meet all future obligations. There is always room for the man who lives up to his promises—and it usually is a spacious, well-furnished room. A man may live down almost any past if he will but live up to his promises, and the best way to live up to his promises is to take care that they are not piled too high above his head. The fewer promises he makes, the more he will keep, and the most promising man makes the fewest promises.

The people of Marshfield have presented Mayor Straw with a handsome modern residence as a token of their appreciation of his continued eight years of service as mayor. Better a bouquet now than a monument after he is dead.

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