

# ST. JOHNS REVIEW

Devoted to the Interests of the Peninsula, the Manufacturing Centre of the Northwest.

VOL. I.

ST. JOHNS, OREGON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1904.

NO. 7

## NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

### Various Topics of Local and General Interest Briefly and Tersely Treated.

#### Timely Matters Dealt With and Interspersed with Timely Suggestions on Local Affairs.

Commercial clubs are being formed in nearly all towns of any importance throughout the northwest, and accomplishing a great work for their respective communities in the way of bringing about a more desirable condition in public affairs, and attracting attention to their particular resources and advantages. Of recent years the work of publicity has devolved upon the real estate dealers, and this class of business men have performed a grand work along this line, but they should not be expected to carry all the burden. Every citizen who has any local pride whatever, is equally interested in setting forth the advantages of their city, and should assist in the work. The St. Johns Commercial Association has made an excellent start, and deserves the hearty support and co-operation of every wide-awake citizen. Let's all pull together, friends, and the results during the next year will astonish you.

H. W. Scott, the veteran editor of the Oregonian, is spoken of as a possible appointee to the president to some important foreign mission. Disregarding politics, the administration could not confer a greater honor on the state of Oregon and one that would meet with such general approval by all classes of our people, than to appoint Mr. Scott to any position of such great honor and responsibility. He is an able man, capable to fill any position in the gift of the federal government, and, now that he is nearing the line where one cannot hope for many more decades of his usefulness, it would be a fitting tribute to a truly great son of the webfoot state.

Its "catching," this "grafting" mania which is afflicting Portland. A preacher of the gospel, in charge of a congregation, officiated at the funeral of one of his parishioners the other day and then one night after delivering a prayer meeting lecture on the subject: "Go forth in all the world and preach Christ and him crucified," wets to his study and sent a bill to the head of the the family of the deceased for \$5.00 for reading the funeral rites over the grave. That preacher ought to be, or perhaps was, an adviser of some of the official "grafters." The bill was paid, and a sermon on "Charity" followed the next Sunday.

In reply to some of the trivial objections urged by the attorneys for the gamblers, in his court the other day, Judge Frazer took occasion to deliver a lecture to the said attorneys and at the same time paid a high tribute to Sheriff Word for the manner in which he is discharging his duty in enforcing the laws as he finds them on the statute books.

It seems strange that so many people will insist on carrying their letters and other mail to Portland to post it, instead of depositing it in the St. Johns postoffice. Every letter and parcel mailed at this office helps to build up and increase the postal facilities here. After the stamp cancellation reaches a given amount, the office becomes third class, and is then provided with all the conveniences and assistance the business may demand. Deposit all your mail here if you want to see better and more adequate postal facilities in St. Johns.

The pessimist is claiming that after the Lewis and Clark Fair a dull season, and a consequent decline in values will follow. To follow his line of reasoning is difficult, so flimsy is the argument. But there is no reason for such a conclusion. On the contrary, some of our most conservative and far seeing men of Oregon claim that instead of depressing times, the whole Northwest will enter upon an

era of prosperity such as has never before been experienced. And why not? The resources of the country are here. Capital throughout the east is looking for opportunities to invest, and if it discovers that the west presents an inviting field, it will not be slow to take advantage. Thousands of eastern people will visit this country who now have only a faint conception of the opportunities which only await active development. There need be no fear, if we do our part as hosts, but that the 1905 fair will be prolific with good for the northwest.

It is quite noticeable that our merchants are increasing their stocks of goods all along the line, and are selling their wares at the same prices as obtain in Portland. This is as it should be, and the citizens of St. Johns should appreciate the efforts of the home merchant, and buy every article possible right here. Leave your money at home, where you can hope to get some benefit from it. Every cent spent "down town" is to that extent lost to St. Johns. The men you patronize there have no common interest with you, and don't spend a cent for your benefit. There is no single rule, which, if lived up to, that will contribute to the success of a city, so much as the trade-at-home principle.

The "bundle brigade" is losing membership, and the "patronize-home industry" sentiment is showing tangible proof of its growth. If The Review could add to any extent in creating a spirit of pride in this direction, it would feel that some good had been accomplished, and its labors not in vain. The trade-at-home idea is so very vital to the commercial interests of the city, that we can hardly appreciate how any citizen who feels local pride can fail to see its importance. You'll feel better and be better if you patronize your home people, besides you will get part of your money back, because it goes into circulation. Disorganize the "bundle-brigade."

When, asks the peninsula citizen, will the street car company give through car service to Portland? Under present conditions there is no good reason why passengers should be compelled to undergo the inconvenience and exposure consequent upon the necessity of transferring at Piedmont Junction. The time was, perhaps, when travel was light and it was more convenient for the operative department to have the transfer system. It should seem, however, that this time had passed, and the convenience of the public given a little more consideration.

It is rumored that the street car company contemplates completing their line from Skidmore street to the upper Albina station, then instead of going to Piedmont Junction, run cars down through lower Albina. This would, if through cars are run, materially lessen the time between Yamhill street and peninsula points. The people of this district would hail such a change with delight. It is hoped that the rumor will become a reality.

The Grants Pass, Oregon, Observer, than which no brighter or more welcome exchange reaches our table, issued an illustrated Christmas edition. The typographical appearance is elegant, while the writup of the industries of Grants Pass city, and Josephine county is all that could be desired, and will prove a good investment for the people whose liberal patronage, made such a valuable edition of the Observer possible.

By the way, the Observer is one of the most ably and carefully edited

weekly journals in the northwest. Editor Galbraith a thoughtful and forcible writer, whom to read after is a pleasure as well as being highly instructive. He is a bright, well-informed gentleman, a credit to the journalistic profession, and an honor to all who are so fortunate as to enjoy his personal friendship. Oregon would be better off if she had many more newspaper editors like him.

Secretary of State Dunbar's estimate for the expenses of running the government of the state of Oregon for the next year, foot up \$1,803,648.42. Quite a snug sum, to be sure, but if it is not increased by the legislature we presume the overburdened taxpayer can stand it. In fact, he will have to.

A Seattle preacher and newspaper editor is nothing if he is not imbued with true Seattle nerve. He uses the basement of his church for a printing office, and on Sunday he sells his newspapers from his pulpit. Some of the brethren objected to this display of enterprise and appealed to the courts, and the judge, who, evidently never had much to do with trying to make a living out of a newspaper, issued a decree putting a stop to this kind of circulation getting. After all, though, we we have heard a good many preachers, and have seen a good many newspapers, and we will be hanged if we wouldn't, in many cases be in favor of having the preacher sell us a real live newspaper in preference to his slumber producing sermon.

#### St. Johns Company Gets Contract to Repair Wenona.

The contract for repairing the steamer Wenona was awarded by the Port of Portland Commission to the St. Johns Shipbuilding Company, the lowest bidder. A special meeting of the board was held for the purpose of opening bids for the work. The proposals showed a remarkable wide range. James Larson, superintendent of the St. Johns Company, was on hand with other bidders and promised that the work would be completed by January 10. The Wenona will be repaired on the drydock and the Commissioners are anxious to have her off as soon as possible as other vessels may want the dock. It is likely that if the contract for repairing the Chinook is let here the big dredge will be docked at St. Johns.

Another letter was read from the Peninsula Lumber Company demanding that the material deposited by the dredge Columbia back of the St. Johns dike be removed, but no action was taken on the communication.

#### Death of Pioneer Lady.

Mrs. Isabella Windle died at her home in this city, at two o'clock Thursday morning. The deceased was born in Tennessee Jan. 25, 1824, and lacked only a few weeks of being 81 years old. She moved with her father's family to Missouri, when a mere child. She was married to John Windle, who died in St. Johns two years ago. She came to Oregon in 1852, and settled on a farm on the Columbia Slough, where they remained until sixteen years ago, when they settled in St. Johns, and had lived here ever since.

Eight children were born and all reached the age of man and womanhood, and have reared families. The surviving members of the family are: Mrs. P. T. Smith, Mrs. Z. M. Knight and W. W. Windle, of St. Johns; Mrs. F. M. Frasier, of Fulda, Wash.; J. C. Windle, of East Portland; John Windle, of Amboy, Wash., and J. A. Windle, of Springdale, Wash.

The deceased has been an invalid for ten years, and three years ago fell and broke her hip, since which time she has been continuously confined to her house.

Funeral services will be held at family residence, at 1 p. m. Saturday, and interment will take place at the Columbia Slough cemetery.

The deceased was well and favorably known by every old resident of the peninsula, all of whom extend sympathy to the family in their bereavement.

## PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE

### About People Who are Going and Coming to and From St. Johns.

#### And Gossip of a Lively Nature of Happenings In and Around Our Prosperous City.

Moses F. Tufts spent a day or two in Goldendale, Wash., on business.

Mrs. L. F. Chase is in Vancouver, Wash., with her mother, who is quite sick.

Miss Georgie Rich, of the St. Johns hotel, left Wednesday evening for Seattle, and will return Saturday.

Isaac Baker has moved into his new house, corner the boulevard and Polk streets. The building is modern and one of the neatest in the town.

G. W. McKeen, superintendent of the Kalama Boom Co., is in the city, the guest of Cochran Bros. Mr. McKeen was so favorably impressed with St. Johns that he invested in property here.

C. E. Mortinson, of Mt. Angel, Or., was in the city this week, and purchased property at the corner of Burlington and Edison streets, and will soon commence the erection of a boarding and rooming house.

Mr. Nelson, a prominent sawmill man of Corvallis, was in town Tuesday, looking after his lumber interests in this vicinity. He spoke very flatteringly of the growth and improvements that St. Johns had made since his last visit.

Louis F. Wiedman and wife and John Boher, of Denver, Colo., arrived in the city yesterday, and are looking for a location to go into business. Mr. Wiedman read The Review back in Colorado, and was induced to come here and investigate.

James Johns, a capitalist of Minneapolis, was in the city, looking up business interests with the view to locating. This gentleman bears the same name as the founder of this city, the lamented James Johns. It is hoped that Mr. Johns will determine to become a permanent resident.

Our friend R. J. Peterson is now enjoying the blizzard stricken prairies of Dakota, while we here in St. Johns are sunning ourselves on the front porch. We can just imagine we see "Pete" cuddling up to a red hot stove, gazing out of the window on the snow piles and ice covered sloughs, the thermometer dangling along among the teens below. Send us a postal, R. J.

In Mrs. Clark, St. Johns has a most accommodating postmistress, and in order to provide her with more adequate facilities, every letter or parcel sent through the mails should be posted in the St. Johns office. That our postmistress gets along as well as she does with the poor facilities is a tribute to her carefulness and ability. Build up the postoffice by putting all your mail through it.

#### The Tax Levy.

The tax levy for 1905, including state, county, city and school taxes is as follows:

	Mills
State	5.6
State school	5.0
County	6.4
Road	2.1
Special county (library)	.2
Port of Portland	2.7
City of St. Johns	3.0
School District No. 2	6.5
Total	31.5

This is seven mills less than the taxes to be paid by the residents of the city of Portland.

#### St. Johns Volunteer Fire Department

A meeting of the new volunteer fire department was held Tuesday evening, fairly well attended. Dr. W. W. Hicks was elected temporary chairman. The committee on constitution and by-laws reported, and it must be said performed their duties exceedingly well, and presented their report in fine shape although rather lengthy. The report was read and adopted. The

by-laws fix the age limit of active members at eighteen to thirty-six years. They provide for nearly every possible contingency that may arise. The following permanent officers were elected: President, Dr. W. W. Hicks; fire chief, M. P. Tufts; secretary, L. F. Chase; treasurer, W. H. King. The chief will appoint an assistant. The new organization starts off under the most favorable circumstances, and the officers chosen are all good men who may be depended upon to push the organization to a success. It is the plain duty of every citizen to lend the boys all the aid and encouragement possible. The city council is acting with vim and vigor now to provide suitable equipment. The Review extends its congratulations, and will at all times do what it can to encourage and assist our fire ladders. It is hoped that they may not be called into active service soon, but if they are, we believe they will not be found shirking.

#### THE COMMERCIAL ASSOCIATION MEETS.

#### The Charter and Park Matter Up for Discussion.

The Commercial Association met at Peterson's Hall, quite a large attendance, President King in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meetings were read and approved. A number of new members were added to the rolls. Mr. Monahan made report of consultation with the owner of the property adjoining the school house, when the property was offered for \$7,500. After considerable discussion a rising vote was taken, and every member of the association present voted in favor with one or two exceptions.

The charter committee promised to take the matter up at once, and report at a meeting to be held next Monday evening.

Messrs. A. G. Douglass and J. C. Crome were appointed a committee to present to the city council the proposition of allowing the Portland Ship Building Company to use the foot of Richmond street for a period of five years.

The banquet committee reported progress, and the association gave them full full power to act in the matter.

A number of amendments to the constitution and by-laws were made. The meeting adjourned to meet at Peterson's hall next Monday evening, at 7:45.

#### Christmas Program.

At the Evangelical church, Christmas Eve, commencing at 7:30 p. m. Voluntary by the orchestra; opening song, "Joy to the World;" prayer by the pastor; recitation, "Just a little word of welcome," by Marie Marney; reading, by Mrs. Hall; exercise, "What Christmas brings;" song, "Merry, Merry Christmas;" recitation, by Clyde Thayer; exercise, "Jesus our light;" recitation, by Miss Edmondson; song, "Rock-a-baby;" recitation, "The message of St. Claus," by Lillian McVieker; exercise, by primary class; recitation, by Bessie Hughes; exercise, "Snow Stars;" recitation, "Two little stockings," by Ethel Thayer; exercise, "Christmas constellation;" song, "The old story," Gladys Izenhath and Gertrude Baldwin; reading, by Miss Lena Parker; exercise, "Red, white and blue;" song, by Eola Eastman; drill, "Night Cap;" distribution of treat; song, "Good night;" benediction.

The Christmas tree at the Evangelical church will not be used for distributing presents from friend to friend, but only to distribute the treat and presents from the Sunday school treasure to the scholars.