

THE DAILY GAZETTE-TIMES

VOL. I. NO. 205

CORVALLIS, BENTON COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1909

PRICE FIVE CENTS

MASS MEETING DECLARES IN FAVOR OF FIRST-CLASS FIRE DEPARTMENT

PRESENT SITUATION ABOUT AS BAD AS IT COULD BE AND WHOLLY UNSATISFACTORY TO EVERYBODY

ASKS COUNCIL TO PROVIDE ALL THAT MAY BE NECESSARY

Citizens Express Readiness to Pay Tax Necessary to Provide Adequately ---- Firemen Not Willing to Serve for Glory These Days, and Object to Pulling Heavy Apparatus-----Takes a Whack at the Coffee Club-----Meeting Protests Against the Sale of Old Gazette Property.

Fifty-two citizens met at the City Hall last night and after an hour's discussion declared in favor of Corvallis having adequate fire protection. A committee of five—Messrs. Frank Groves, A. L. Stevenson, M. M. Long, M. S. Woodcock and N. R. Moore—was named to confer with the ways and means committee and the City Council in regard to the matter. The meeting failed to unite on any definite plan as to the resuscitation of the fire department, and passed this up to the council. The one point made clear was that citizens generally feel the need of a better department and are insistent on the council taking any steps necessary to meet the situation properly.

Willing to Tax For It

It was made clear that the tax payers present are willing to pay for the fire protection they desire. If the council considers it best to purchase a team, hire a man to care for the team and apparatus and be on hand at all times, the citizens are willing to agree to the expenditure. They want a good department at the best expense, whatever the amount may be. As a matter of course they expect the council to not go beyond reasonable bounds. It was suggested that the tax levy be again placed at what it is now and use the residue above the five or five and a half mills proposed for building up a first-class department. It was also suggested that the city might make definite arrangement for livery stable teams to be on hand to pull the apparatus. Various plans were suggested, but to the council is left the working out of the proposition; it was made clear that those present desire the situation straightened out very shortly.

The Proceedings

The meeting was called to order by John F. Allen, president of the fire department, who stated briefly that there is no department. Certain apparatus is on hand, but fire fighters are few and far between and no longer of the disposition to serve the people for fun—and he could not blame them for that.

Mr. Horning suggested that at least one man be paid to keep things in shape.

Mr. Whitsides insisted that two should be paid, and he said teams could be hired when they were needed.

M. M. Long, fireman for years, suggested that present apparatus could be remodeled and made effective; thought the city should hire man and team; pay fire chief \$5 for each fire attended, and give each fireman at least \$1.00 an hour.

A. K. Russ suggested that the ways and means committee of the council meets this evening and desires to know about what sum might be necessary to build up a department. Personally he was in favor spending all that is necessary to get a first-class department, and would think it cheap at any price. His insistence was that the fire insurance rates will be doubled shortly and that will result in greater expense than a fire department would cost and still we would have no protection.

Stevenson Tears 'Em Up

A. L. Stevenson talked rise of insurance rates, and argued that a team and better equipment with men paid to look after things is a necessity. He wants a small up-to-date city equipment. Before the mountain water system, with its 75 pounds pressure was put in, the basic insurance rate was 75 cents, now it is 40 cents, but it will go back to the old rate if an adequate department is not built up. 75 pounds pressure is no good if it isn't used promptly. Suggested that tax levy be left as it is, buy team, convert city hall into real fire department, and advised that the door should be locked before the horse is stolen. Stevenson said get busy and spend the money necessary for protection.

Capt. Crawford suggested that a sufficient number of volunteers, about 30, could be secured, and advised paying man something to keep track of things. He thought it would be all right to hire any team to handle the apparatus when needed. Thought firemen should be paid for actual time put in. He said something should be done, but doubted the wisdom of an expenditure of \$1,000 or \$1,200.

M. M. Long Talks Straight

Mr. Long said volunteers could not be secured and that it was a crime to ask men to get out of a warm bed and while half dressed run ten blocks to an engine house and then run ten blocks pulling heavy apparatus. That volunteers could be secured at one time was because of the social life connected with the department. But there is no social life now. Special invitation, personal and written, will not bring firemen or business men to a smoker, and as for the Coffee Club, he had never yet been invited to one of their parties and he did not know of any other members being invited because they were members. Neither had he seen coffee but once at any of the 40 fires he had attended. He said the boys would no longer serve for fun, nor would they haul the apparatus. He argued for a team, a paid fire chief and proper pay for firemen while at the fire.

Says Keep Present Levy

A. K. Russ said the young

men who always serve on the department really have small interest to protect, and that the others should pay. He thought \$2,000 spent on the department at this time would be little, and \$10,000 the first year would not be too much, if it were necessary. Under old insurance rate his \$3,000 stock cost him \$56 for insurance; under the new rate \$4,000 costs him \$41.80. He doesn't want to go back to the old rate. Said keep the levy as it is and spend money on the department.

M. S. Woodcock advised care in the matter, but agreed that there should be some definite action taken. He thought all who fight fire should be well paid. Mr. Woodcock doubted whether one team would be enough thought livery team might do.

Says Keep City Property

Frank Groves argued that present hose carts are not enough. Said old Gazette building back of Allen & Woodward store should be kept and remodeled for department service. He moved appointment of five men to convey to the council the desire of the citizens for a first-class fire department. This carried and chairman Allen named the men stated.

Meeting on Record

Mr. Groves expressed a desire that the old Gazette property be not sold as contemplated. He asked the citizens present to go on record as opposing the proposed sale. There was no discussion and on a vote there was no dissenting voice to the motion.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

Members of the Oregon Fire Relief Association: You are hereby notified that the regular annual meeting of the members of said Association will be held at Burn's Hall, McMinnville, Oregon, on Tuesday, January 11, 1910, at 10 o'clock a. m., for the purpose of electing three trustees and transacting such other business as may regularly come before said meeting.

W. C. HAGERTY,
Secretary.

Dec. 30, 1909.

GREAT SALES TO COME NEXT WEEK

SEVERAL BIG STORES WILL GO TO SLASHING PRICES

WHOLE BOTTOM DROPS OUT

One Will Do a Reg Tag Business, Another Has New Year Gift Sale, Another a Bargain Carnival, and the Other a Forced Sale.

Four big sales on in Corvallis should prove the best news that has been carried to Gazette-Times readers in recent months. When the whole bottom drops out of things there's certain to be something doing, and just now four of the largest stores in the city are determined to get rid of a large portion of their stocks before taking invoice. There is certain to be greater price slashing, and greater bargain offerings than at any time during the year. Nolan & Son, F. L. Miller's "Woman's Shop," The Toggery, and The Elite are all at it, each trying to out-do the other, and only the buyer is likely to prove winner. Anyone who knows values, knows full well that the great proportion of prices advertised in this issue are genuine bargain prices. The writer of this knows that in many instances the latest and finest goods are being offered at actual cost. Some other things are actually below cost.

How can these things be? Simply because business men must pay heavy bills at the end of the year. They cannot have the goods on the shelves and still pay for them. They can better afford to sell these goods at cost rather than experience difficulty in meeting bills. They can better afford to make tremendous reductions and sell the goods than they can to have the goods in the way as other goods are coming in. And when it comes to invoicing

it is easier to check up figures than it is to measure goods.

The present big sales are genuine bargain sales, and worthy the attention of the whole public. If the present offerings do not bring the coin from the old sock it's because old Santa got all of it. Read the big ads carefully, then visit the stores. Such opportunity will not come soon again. Present prices beat any mail order concern on the globe, and here you can see the goods.

MARRIAGE BELLS AT PHILOMATH

PROMINENT YOUNG COUPLE NOW TROT IN DOUBLE HARNESS.

MANY CHRISTMAS VISITORS

Philomath People in Distant Places Come Home to Spend Holidays With Relatives and Friends----Many Comings and Goings.

PHILOMATH, Dec. 29.—A very pretty wedding occurred at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Mason, of this city, on Tuesday morning, Dec. 28, when Miss Clara Mason was united in marriage to Mr. William Claybaugh, of Lewiston, Idaho. The young couple left on the morning train for Lewiston, their future home, attended by the congratulations and best wishes of a host of relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Henderson, of Maple Grove, arrived last Wednesday and expect to reside in Philomath this winter.

Rev. Baldwin and wife, of Oregon City, spent Christmas with their son, L. B. Baldwin, of this city, returning to their work at Oregon City Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Van Blaricorn and son, Elgin, of Newburg, spent Sunday with friends here. The Van Blaricorns were formerly residents of our city.

(Continued on Page Two)

INDEPENDENT CO. MAKES GOOD

ESTABLISHES AUTOMATIC SERVICE WITH PORTLAND.

MAY ERECT A BIG BUILDING

Building Won't Come Very Soon, But Company's Business Here Warrants Change at no Far Distant Date--- Automatic Service Saves Much Time.

The local Independent Telephone Co., which a short time ago promised automatic connection with Portland, has delivered the goods. Since a day or two ago it has been possible to get a Portland subscriber direct, without waiting on the pleasure of Portland's Central office. This gives about a ten second service and eliminates the waits that have been the rule here-to-fore. The automatic arrangement enables the Corvallis Central to get a Portland subscriber just as she calls a Corvallis subscriber. It is easy to see the immense advantage there is in this over the old method. And the service is just as perfect. One hears as perfectly as if the subscriber were in this city.

It was predicted that this service extraordinary would not be given, that it was all a bluff, or something to make a noise with but this may be said for the Independent Co.—it has made good every promise made to date. The company has a phenomenal share of the business here and is determined to hold it. Nothing necessary to merit a continuance of present confidence will be left undone. Just now there is talk of the company housing its Corvallis office in a first-class building, concrete, fire-proof and of sufficient size and convenience for it to fill every requirement for years to come. Corvallis feels that it is entitled to this and will be pleased to have this assurance of good things, for the Independent will make good sooner or later.

BARGAINS IN WOMEN'S KNIT UNDERWEAR

For Friday and Saturday

We have made a Great Reduction on

EVERY SUIT Both Women's and Men's

And for those who have been putting off buying their Suit, now is the time to buy, while the selection is best.

Men's odd Coats and Vests of Broken Suits. These suits sold for from \$12.00 to \$15.00. Coat and Vest, size 33, 34, 35. Special Price

\$2.00

Ladies' \$10.00 and \$12.00 Capes. Special Price

\$7.50

Boys' Good All-Wool Suits worth \$5.00. Special Price

\$2.50

Misses' Coats, sizes 8 to 14 years. Special

25 Per Cent Less



Boys' Sweaters

Boys' all-wool Sweaters, sell for \$1.25. SPECIAL,

95c



Ladies' Neckwear

Ladies' beautiful lace collars, both ecru and white. Regular 75c for 43c. Regular 35c for 23c.