

St. Helens Mist

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NO. 9

PROTEST IS FILED ON SENATE BILL 190

A POLITICAL SCHEME

Many St. Helens Citizens Oppose Change in Judicial District

Senate Bill No. 190, introduced by Senators Handley, Banks and Norblad and read the first time February 5th, does not meet with the approval of the citizens of St. Helens and Columbia county at large, and a vigorous protest is being made against the passage of the bill.

Those who keep in close touch with politics and politicians, scent a nest piece of political strategy, and surmise that some ambitious ones who would not be opposed to be circuit judges, have taken this means of improving their chances at the next election.

It is a recognized fact that Senator Norblad of Astoria, looks with longing eyes upon the judgeship. Several years ago, he opposed Judge Eakin for this position and had it not been for the large vote Eakin received in Columbia County, Norblad would have been elected. He has a strong following among the



JAMES A. EAKIN

Judge of the 20th Judicial District, which comprises Clatsop and Columbia counties. If Senate Bill No. 190 (the Ballagh-Banks-Norblad bill) becomes a law, Judge Eakin will no longer officiate at terms of the circuit court in Columbia county. The people of the county are satisfied with Judge Eakin's administration and do not wish to be separated from Clatsop county.

Scandinavians and being thoroughly acquainted with the political turns in Clatsop, usually polls a large vote. It is surmised that Senator Norblad, therefore, is quite anxious to have Clatsop placed in a Judicial District all by itself, reasoning that his chances for election would be better when Columbia was eliminated. If this is the case, Norblad will use every opportunity to force the bill through.

Others are Ambitious It is pointed out that ambitious politicians in Washington county would also be benefitted by the change in the district. At the present time, Tillamook and Washington are in the same district, and Judge Hagley is the presiding judge. The registration records of Columbia county show that 4261 people were registered voters. In Washington county the registration was 10,638. Looking at the scheme from this angle, it is apparent that any time a citizen of Washington county wished to be judge, he has approximately 6,000 more registered "home" voters than his Columbia county opponent, and a man from Columbia county would have as much chance to land the judgeship as a snow ball in Hades would have of growing to the proportions of Mt. Hood. The purpose of the bill is quite apparent—Columbia county will still be used as a political football and there seems to be no one in Salem to protest.

Extracts from the Bill A few of the salient features of the bill are: Section 1—That there shall be and hereby is created a judicial district of the State of Oregon, composed of the County of Clatsop, and for that purpose the COUNTY OF COLUMBIA IS DETACHED from the 20th Judicial District, etc., etc. Section two provided that Judge Eakin, the present judge of the district, will continue as judge of the newly formed district until his successor is elected and qualified. Section four creates a new district. It is a simple matter. Columbia is placed with Washington in the 19th district, and Tillamook is "detached." The section provides that George R. Barley, the present judge of the 19th district, shall con-

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NO QUORUM AT COUNCIL MEETING

Many Items Taken Under Consideration Just the Same

There was not a quorum at the council meeting Monday night, so instead of having a regular session, Mayor Saxon and Councilmen McDonald and Chapman listened to the informal talk and suggestions of those who came to transact business.

The main item of interest was the condition of several sewers. The marshal reported that he was unable to get them clear. Dr. Ross, city health officer, also reported that a sewer in that district which is on Winter street, was badly in need of repairs. He also stated that a certain nuisance of a years duration was still in that locality.

Mayor Saxon informed the doctor that he knew all about the matter, but had not been able to get any one to attend to it. The local health officer told the mayor that the conditions which existed were a menace to the health of the community, and the mayor promised to take some action in the matter.

An informal discussion as to certain street petitions, was brought to the attention of the city dads, and City Engineer Van Orshoven promised to make certain changes in the plans so that bids could be asked for and work begun within a short time.

Many are Present

The council chamber was filled with interested persons. Although there was no regular meeting, all of the spectators stayed to see what would be done. Those present were: C. L. Wheeler, William Muckle, L. J. VonOrshoven, W. J. Fullerton, S. R. Sonneland, L. G. Ross, John Reuben, Emory Cox, J. B. Godfrey and J. W. Day.

The matters which should have been acted upon Monday will be brought to the attention of the council at the next meeting, Monday night, February 17th.

WAGES NOT CUT SAYS H. F. M'CORMICK

Living Expenses Must Come Down Before Wages are Reduced

H. F. McCormick, manager of the St. Helens Lumber Company and the St. Helens Shipbuilding Company says that the report published in a Portland labor paper that wages had been cut by the concerns of which he is manager, are unfounded and false. Mr. McCormick said that no cut in wages would be made until living expenses had come down.

Officers of the L. L. L. were interviewed and they stated that they had been given assurance that no cut in wages was now anticipated. The report, as to the cut in wages, they said, was probably a misunderstanding caused by the adoption of a new wage scale. Heretofore, there has been a minimum wage and a maximum wage. Under the new schedule, which the L. L. L. has adopted, there is a minimum scale which is slightly under the former schedule, but there is no maximum and the man that is worth the most, will not be bound by any maximum. The officials and members of the L. L. L. think this the better scheme, inasmuch as no limit is set as to what a skilled man may receive for his daily work.

OREGONIAN GIVING A FINE SERVICE

In keeping with its reputation of being the best newspaper on the Pacific Coast and furnishing unequalled news and delivery service, the Oregonian has recently improved its delivery service between Portland and Goble. A special delivery truck leaves the Oregonian office early in the morning and the Oregonians are delivered at all points along the route between Portland and Goble before the late riser has had breakfast. The papers arrive in St. Helens about 6 a. m., and are distributed before 8 o'clock. The recent change in the railroad schedule, and the fact that the Oregonian did not reach St. Helens subscribers until 10 o'clock, was responsible for the change in delivery system.

The Oregonian has many subscribers in this territory and undoubtedly all of them appreciate the fine service which they now receive.

HELP TO ORGANIZE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Harvey Wellso, state insurance commissioner, has written Mayor Saxon and the St. Helens Chamber of Commerce that Captain George W. Stokes will be in St. Helens next Monday and aid in the organization of a fire department.

Captain Stokes is a fire fighter of 20 years experience and undoubtedly will give valuable suggestions and aid in the organization of the St. Helens fire department.

Mayor Saxon and the Chamber of Commerce have made arrangements to entertain the captain while he is in St. Helens and it is hoped that an efficient fire department will be organized.

BOYS' CONFERENCE BEGINS TONIGHT

A FINE PROGRAM

Many Columbia County Boys Are Here to Attend the Conference

The first annual conference of the "Older Boys" of Columbia county, begins tonight, and will be held in the Methodist church. Geo. V. McClure, Columbia county secretary of the Y. M. C. A., thinks that not less than 100 boys from districts outside of St. Helens, will be in attendance. Many of the young fellows have been arriving in St. Helens during the day and a large delegation is expected tonight. The committee on arrangements have everything in shape to take care of the boys as they arrive, and the hospitable people of St. Helens have thrown their houses open to the boys.

Program Starts Tonight

The program of the conference, which starts tonight, is:

- Friday— 7:30 P. M.—Registration and assignment. 7:45 P. M.—Who's who and where from. 8:00 P. M.—Big sing, led by Harold Humbert, general secretary of the Oregon Sunday School Association. Appointment of Committees. Welcome from City Dads, Judge W. J. Fullerton. Welcome from City Boys, Mason Dillard. Response—Merlin Schneider of Clatskanie. Address, Frank Moran, Rolling Bay, Wash., regional director U. S. Boys' Working Reserve. Address: Dr. E. H. Pence.

Saturday—

- 8:30 A. M.—Leader's meeting. 9:00 A. M.—Song and Devotions. 9:30 A. M.—Business Session, election of officers, announcements, invitations for next conference. 10:00 A. M.—The Three "C's"—By Prof. B. R. King. (a) Clean Speech, (b) Clean Sports, (c) Clean Habits. 11:00 A. M.—American Standard Program—J. C. Meehan, secretary Boys' Work Portland City Association. 11:45 A. M.—Conference Picture. 12:00 Noon—Lunch. 1:30 P. M.—Song and Devotions. 2:00 P. M.—The Hi Y Club—Paul L. Newmeyer, Interstate Boys' secretary. 2:30 P. M.—Keeping Fit, Dr. Elliott, director Oregon Hygiene society. 3:00 P. M.—Athletic tests and games directed by T. H. Gawley, assistant physical director, Portland Y. M. C. A. 6:30 P. M.—Fellowship Supper, a St. Helens man for every conference boy. Address of the evening by Tracy Strong, Seattle, Washington.

Sunday—

- 9:00 A. M.—Song and Devotions. 9:45 A. M.—Sunday School. 11:00 A. M.—Leaders in church pulpits. 3:00 P. M.—Double Header—Boys Congregational Church, Speaker, Frank Moran. Men's Conference church, Speaker, Pres. Levi T. Pennington, Marshal Dana. 7:30 P. M.—Union Services—Special services of song. Address by Frank Moran, Seattle. Address by Lieut. Petard of French army. Farewell Circle.

GOVERNMENT BOAT IS LAUNCHED

Steamer Fort Sheridan Slides Into the Water

The government steamer Fort Sheridan was launched at the yard of the St. Helens Shipbuilding Company Wednesday afternoon at 3:15 o'clock. Miss Helen Phillips, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tupper Phillips, christened the vessel, which slid from the ways without the slightest hitch. A large number of people witnessed the launching, which was in every way successful.

The Fort Sheridan is a Ferris type vessel, 235 feet long, 48 feet beam and 22 feet in depth and her carrying capacity is 3500 tons. The keel of the vessel was laid the latter part of September and good progress has been made in the construction of the vessel as it was about 92 per cent complete, with the exception of the boilers and engines, when launched.

WORK ON DOCK IS PROGRESSING

Contractor O'Connor is making good progress on the construction of the city dock. All of the piling have been driven and his force of men are now placing the caps. This work, Mr. O'Connor thinks, will be completed within a few days and then the planing will be laid. He thinks that the entire job will be completed within the coming thirty days and is working with this object in view.

Mayor Saxon has the pile driver and logs ready for the placing of the floating dock, and this job, also, will be completed in the near future.

BIG DAMAGE CASE IS NOW ON TRIAL

\$29,000 ASKED IN SUIT

Clatsop County is Defendant and Judge Campbell Presides

The circuit court was convened yesterday to try the case of Fieldshaw vs. Clatsop County. The plaintiff is suing for \$29,000. On account of Judge Eakin being a taxpayer in Clatsop county, and all of the regular jury for this term of court being in the same condition, the plaintiff asked for a change of venue to Columbia county. It was granted and Judge Campbell of Clatskanie county is hearing the case before a Columbia county jury.

Uncompleted Road Contract

The plaintiff signed a contract with the Clatsop county court to perform certain work on the Lewis and Clark highway in Clatsop county. The county officials claim that he was negligent in performing the work and that the terms of the contract were not lived up to. Therefore, they cancelled the contract and had the balance of the work completed at the county expense. The contractor, thereupon, brought action for \$29,000 and claims that the county owes him this amount. The county has set up a counter claim and is introducing evidence to show that they are out \$35,000 on the contract, and that instead of the contractor expecting to receive money from the county, he should pay the county a balance for the work which he was unable to or did not complete.

It is understood that the plaintiff lost money on the job, but it was through no fault of the county, as he bid on a certain job for a certain amount, and as far as can be ascertained, when the county saw he could not complete the job, they stepped in and did the work. The contractor then instituted proceedings. Much detail evidence is to be produced and it is not thought that the case will go to the jury before tonight or tomorrow.

CLATSOP COUNTY FAVORS COLUMBIA

C. G. Fulton and Edwin Judd, Astoria lawyers, who are here representing Clatsop county in a case being tried in the circuit court, are not in favor of a change in the 20th judicial district, unless, as they state, Columbia county wishes such change. The general impression in Astoria, it seems, is that Columbia wishes to get away from Clatsop, and the latter county being very friendly to Columbia, does not wish to stand in the way of anything where Columbia might gain some advantage. It was explained to the Astoria attorneys that scheme of detaching Columbia from Clatsop did not originate in this county, but was mired in Clatsop. Both of them were surprised and stated that they hoped the legislature would not fall for the political scheme as contained in Senate Bill 190. They could see no necessity for such change, as the judge of the 20th district has ample time to attend to the court business of both Clatsop and Columbia.

LOGGING OPERATIONS MAY SOON RESUME

L. H. Briggs, one of the owners of the Milton Creek Logging company, was here Monday. He states that his company may resume operations within the coming sixty days. The log market, he said, was so unsettled, that the company did not feel inclined to begin operations just now. During the suspension if the logging operations, some work will be done on the extension of the logging railroad. Beginning at the present site of the camp, the road will cross the highway and following Milton creek, again cross the highway near the city water works and continue up Milton creek towards Terholm. The company has sufficient timber to continue logging operations for the coming five years, and it is possible that more will be secured and the logging railroad extended towards the Nehalem.

ANOTHER CHURCH IS DEDICATED

Seventh Day Adventists Have Dedication Exercises

St. Helens now has another house of worship which was dedicated on Saturday evening, February 9th. It is the Seventh Day Adventist church which was recently built and is located in West St. Helens. The cost of the building of worship was \$1381.50 and the furnishing entailed an additional expenditure of \$165.00. The lot, on which the edifice is built, cost \$100, making a total expenditure of \$1646.50, all of which has been paid. The St. Helens church of this faith has a membership of about 45 people.

GOOD PROGRAM HAS BEEN ARRANGED

Next Meeting of Chamber of Commerce Will be Interesting

Charles Wheeler, who was appointed chairman of the day for the next meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, which will be held on Wednesday the 19th, has arranged a program which is interesting and entertaining. A well known Portland citizen will give a short talk on what the building of the highway means to Columbia county, and other counties through which it passes. The speaker, whose name Mr. Wheeler has not given to the Mist, is a man who is intimately acquainted with the highway situation in Oregon, and he comes here to aid in the general road program.

Representative Ballagh Invited

Mr. Wheeler has sent an invitation to Representative Edison I. Ballagh, and asked that he be here to tell the Chamber of Commerce "What is Doing in the Legislature." Mr. Ballagh has not responded to Mr. Wheeler's request that he be present, but it is presumed that Mr. Ballagh will take favorable action and favor the Chamber with his presence and make an interesting talk on what is doing in Oregon's legislative halls.

D. C. Howard to Speak

One of the principal speakers on the program is D. C. Howard, county agricultural agent. He will tell how the Chamber of Commerce can aid the agricultural interests of the county. Mr. Howard has just returned from a conference of the county agents which was held at Corvallis, and undoubtedly has valuable information and suggestions to give the Chamber of Commerce.

Before the social session, a short business meeting will be held, and the evening's business will be concluded with the program as outlined and a lunch. All members of the Chamber are requested to be present.

COLUMBIA COUNTY MAKES GOOD RECORD

Stands High in Contributions to War Work Activities

Charles Wheeler, chairman for Columbia county for the United War Work drive, has handed the Mist an interesting statement showing the results which were obtained in the several localities in the county. It will be noted that Columbia county went far over "the top" in amount of subscriptions as compared to the quota. The statement is:

With the final payment this week on cash subscriptions made during the drive the latter part of November by the Columbia County War Work council, the total sum raised and listed on pledge cards amounts to \$20,660.77.

Of the above amount the boys and girls of Columbia County, under the direction of Mr. Geo. B. McClure of Rainier, raised \$1,055.25, which was a little more than 200 per cent of the amount they set out to raise.

Table listing amounts raised by various districts: Scappoose \$1,711.12, Warren 695.41, St. Helens 4,563.07, Yankton 526.00, Vernonia 379.86, Columbia City 2,074.02, Deer Island 870.50, Goble 781.70, Rainier 2,900.00, Delena 1,145.25, Clatskanie 2,439.60, Lower Nehalem 2,571.24.

The general committee wishes to convey to the one hundred eighty-four chairmen and solicitors its expression of appreciation and gratitude for the devoted and effective cooperation in helping to insure the success of this great patriotic undertaking. In these momentous days, signalized by the victorious ending of the great world struggle and the ushering in of a new era, those who made possible the greatest voluntary offering in the history of mankind have rendered an inestimable service to the men of the military and naval forces of the United States and her allies, to the homes from which they came and the nations which sent them.

COLUMBIA COUNTY WAR WORK COUNCIL

By Charles L. Wheeler, County Director.

EIGHTH GRADE PUPILS RECEIVE DIPLOMAS

Many in Class Pass Excellent Examinations and Receive Diplomas

Examinations were given the pupils in the eighth grade this week and the results were excellent. Teacher and pupils were gratified at the excellent showing. Those who received diplomas were, Katie Lynch, Marion Cox, Rose Coraigilla, Que Gage, Francis Goth, Carl Brown, Athelone Chittim, Edward Salta and John Sten.

Those conditioned into the high school are, Serena Malmin, Qella Constantin, Robert Blackburn, Paul Neff, Willie Lynch, Ernest Salta. Miss Gertrude Liggett is the teacher of the eighth grade.

BANKS AND BALLAGH HAVE FUNNY IDEAS

WHO IS "MAJORITY"

Representative Favors Placing Columbia with Washington

It is evident that both Senator Banks and Representative Ballagh have queer ideas as to the sentiment of the people in Columbia county, and that the "majority" they speak of must be some unknown quantity in this neck of the woods, for a thorough search has not located the "majority." Mr. Ballagh wrote the Chamber of Commerce that he has agreed upon detaching Columbia from Clatsop and placing it with Washington because "a majority of the people in St. Helens wished such change." When interviewed by the Mist, he stated he had talked to the majority of the lawyers and the county officials and all of them were in favor of the bill.

Banks Also Mislead

That Banks has also been misled is indicated in his letter of the 11th, addressed to the Chamber of Commerce in which he stated:

"In reply permit me to say I was informed by Representative Ballagh that he was in favor of this bill—and I yielded to his judgment, as he lives in St. Helens and is familiar with conditions."

"It would be impossible for Columbia county to have a separate judicial district this session of the legislature."

"The county officials and the attorneys in Columbia county seem to favor the proposed change, but I believe it will result in better service for Columbia county. I regret, however, there is any difference of opinion, but of course this is not unusual and I will be governed by what I think is for the best interest of Columbia county."

So that Ballagh and Banks may understand just how the people and the county officials feel about the matter, the Mist is glad to be able to furnish a copy of the petition, which says:

Honorable E. I. Ballagh and Honorable W. W. Banks, Salem, Oregon, Gentlemen:

We, the undersigned petitioners and residents of Columbia county, Oregon, do hereby most respectfully remonstrate against Columbia county being detached from the Twentieth Judicial District of the State of Oregon, unless same can be placed in a judicial district by itself.

Respectfully submitted, ST. HELENS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (By resolution of 35 members).

E. E. Quick, City Recorder; E. A. Ross, merchant; Jas. W. McDonald, councilman; Von A. Gray, jeweler; H. S. Mason, merchant; J. E. Godfrey, real estate; Geo. H. Shinn, attorney; W. B. Dillard, attorney; Charles Graham, banker; H. A. Childs, banker; Sherman Miles, banker; H. E. LaBare, deputy sheriff; Bessie Hattan, county treasurer; J. W. Hunt, county clerk; Marie Paulsen, deputy clerk; C. W. Blakesley, assessor; Martin White, deputy assessor; L. J. VanOrshoven, county surveyor; J. W. Allen, school superintendent; Jos. L. Copeland, auto dealer; M. Saxon, mayor; F. A. George, capitalist; James O'Connor, merchant; U. S. DeSpain, capitalist; A. L. Stone, banker; Henry Morgus, capitalist; Fred Morgus, merchant; M. F. Hazen, justice of the peace; J. D. McDonald, merchant; W. A. Harris, attorney; E. A. Rotger, merchant; Thos. C. Watts, merchant; Reuben; J. F. Johnson, auto stage; J. W. Day, attorney; H. F. McCormick, manager St. Helens Lumber Company and St. Helens Shipbuilding Company, C. C. Cassatt, sales manager, St. Helens Lumber Company; Charles Wheeler, vice president Chamber of Commerce; L. R. Rutherford, capitalist; W. J. Fullerton, county judge; N. O. Larabee, auto stage; S. C. Morton, publisher. Many other individuals whose names are not available, signed the petition, so it is rather queer where Ballagh and Banks get the idea of "the lawyers and county officials being in favor of the change, as Metsker and Stanwood are the only county officials who did not sign the petition.

The people of Columbia county should be very grateful to Banks for his kind thoughts of doing what he thought "for the best interests of Columbia county" but his letter shows conclusively that he has not investigated the matter, or else is hand in hand in Norblad in getting this bill through.

The friends of Mr. Ballagh are much disappointed that he has expressed his opinion as being in favor of the bill and are beseeching him with requests to let Columbia county stay where it is and take the matter out of the hands of ambitious politicians. The action of Senator Banks is also a disappointment to the many here who supported him at the recent election and it now seems that it was a grave mistake to elect him instead of Herman Lawis, who formerly was senator and whose honesty was not questioned.