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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HOLDS A BIG MEETING

WANT A GOOD PROGRAM

Attendance is Large and Many Matters Acted Upon

The meeting of the St. Helens Chamber of Commerce was a big success in every sense. There were about 70 representative men of St. Helens in attendance and all manifested their interest in matters which would be for the benefit of the community and Columbia county.

After the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, President Morton called for reports of committees.

More New Members

Dr. J. H. Flynn of the membership committee, presented the names of 18 men who had made application for membership and they were favorably acted upon. Sherman Miles reported on the progress of getting the paving done on the Strand and Columbia street, south from the Helens hotel. He also mentioned the deplorable condition of the streets and suggested that a committee be appointed to wait on the mayor and council and see if something could not be done toward paving the streets. Councilman J. Allen spoke along the same lines and pledged his aid, both as a city official and a private citizen.

W. P. Dopplinger brought up the matter of the bad condition of the highway near Birkenfeld, in the river Nehalem. He stated that it is almost impossible for a machine to get through. Judge Fallert stated that the matter had been brought to the attention of the county court and he thought steps should be promptly taken to have the highway fixed so that it would be passable.

Metaker Makes Suggestion

In line with the suggestion of the street improvement, Glen Metaker suggested that a committee be appointed to wait on the county court to see if they would not move the creek crusher down to the intersection of Columbia and St. Helens and use the rock there instead of shipping the rock at the present location of the quarry. Mr. Metaker pointed out that this would be to the advantage of the town and the county. Following his suggestion a committee of ten were appointed to wait upon the county court at their next session and present the matter to that body.

Other Matters Presented

Several other matters were presented before the chamber. One of them was that a charter committee be appointed and that they confer with the city authorities relative to forming a new charter to submit to the voters of the city at the next election. The legislative committee reported on the progress of the bills which the chamber had passed and on several bills which they had opposed. The report of the executive secretary Storka gave an outline of what had been accomplished since the last meeting. Several other matters were acted upon at the meeting was then turned over to Charles Wheeler, chairman of the evening.

Orpheus Club Sings

As the first number, Mr. Wheeler called for a song by the Orpheus club. They made a big hit and were cheered. Mark Woodruff, prominent local publicity man, was then called on. He spoke 20 minutes and with the possible exception of a few were sorry when he stopped. Woodruff said the life of any business as a commercial club or chamber of commerce, and the life of such organizations was dependent upon the spirit of co-operation. He told of the tourist travel had done for Oregon and said that when good things were busy throughout the year, the annual tourist travel would be enormous. California, he reaped an annual harvest of a hundred million dollars from tourists, while Oregon did not receive more than seven million. He said that the main thoroughfares should have to be the first improved, that tourists could get in and get out. Afterwards, the side lines would come in for their part of attention.

Mount Hood Loop

Mr. Woodruff was much in favor of the proposed highway around Mount Hood. He thought that such a highway would attract thousands of tourists and also furnish pleasure to the citizens of Oregon. He cited the river, Colorado, as an example of what could be accomplished by the building of necessary scenic highways and said that if the loop around Mt. Hood was built, that thousands of tourists who now go to Colorado and California, would like a bee line for Oregon.

In closing Mr. Woodruff paid a compliment to the St. Helens Chamber of Commerce on their earnestness in the work before them. He said that there would be always and the men with the hammer, he thought the man with the

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How the Great Seattle Strike Was Broken



Our photo shows machine gun crews ready to fire upon the strikers. Police, soldiers and armed civilians were used by Mayor Hanson in the recent strike in the Sound City.

SENATOR BANKS SAYS HE IS FOR COLUMBIA

Claims He is Working for Interest of Columbia County

Senator W. W. Banks of Multnomah county, who represents Columbia county in the state senatorial halls, has written the Mist a letter in which he claims that he has only the best interests of Columbia at heart. The Mist, wishing to give Senator Banks all the credit due, takes the liberty of publishing his letter, which is as follows:

S. C. Morton, Oregon, St. Helens, Oregon. Dear Sir:—I have your favor of the 13th instant enclosing a petition of remonstrance against the county of Columbia being detached from the 20th Judicial district unless the same can be placed in a Judicial district by itself.

It is impossible to create a separate Judicial district for Columbia county with the present views entertained by the members of the legislature.

I have understood from Representative Ballagh that this change was desired by the people of Columbia county. I have also understood that they have not been getting good service with the present arrangement, and that an improved condition would result, in joining with Washington county.

The bill has passed the senate and I would advise you to take this matter up with Representative Ballagh.

I desire to assure you that it is my earnest desire to serve the people of Columbia county, as well as those of the county in which I live, and I do not think that your statement that I have not paid the slightest attention to matters of concern to Columbia county is correct. I have had many conferences with Representative Ballagh as to the wishes and desires of the people of Columbia county. I will say, however, that I was somewhat surprised to receive some of the protests which I did, concerning the raise of salaries in that county. By the terms of the bill which has passed both houses, the largest salary paid to a county official in Columbia county is \$1,800. This is not more than many clerks in department stores and cigar stores receive, and I do not feel that objections to the salary bill were well taken.

Yours very truly, W. W. BANKS.

The Mist believes that the people of Columbia county are fully capable of passing impartial judgment.

BOYS CONFERENCE IS BIG SUCCESS

The Older Boys Conference which was held here Friday, Saturday and Sunday, was well attended and a very interesting and instructive program was given.

Possibly the outstanding features of the conference was the Fellowship supper and the addresses by Doctors Elliott and Pence. This was Saturday evening.

The program for Sunday opened with a song and devotional service. The churches did not have their usual services, but united in a service for the boys. Marshal Dana gave an interesting talk Sunday afternoon and Lieut. Petrad of the French army, spoke at the evening session. Those who attended the conference are loud in their praise of the big success scored and give much credit to Secretary George McClure for the admirable manner in which he arranged the program.

COUNCIL MEETING IS A BIG SHOW

SAXON VS. WELLINGTON

Sewer and Street Assessments Cause Council Much Worry

The main and outstanding feature of the council meeting Monday night was the verbal duel between His Honor, Mayor Magnus Saxon, and J. H. (Duke) Wellington. The latter, who had sewer and street assessments against his property, stated he was willing to pay the assessments, but thought that the interest charge should be cancelled. He claimed that while he was in the service of the U. S., the city dads should have protected his interests. Mayor Saxon did not agree with Mr. Wellington, and quite an argument ensued. Charges and counter charges were hurled and then hurled and those in attendance, were much amused and entertained. The matter ended by a decision of the mayor and council that Mr. Wellington should pay the interest charge on the sewer assessment.

More Lights Are Asked

C. L. Wheeler asked that the council proceed with the installation of lights along Winter street. He set forth that there were numerous residents along this street in the locality described as "Bungalow Park," and that they were entitled to street lights. The council agreed with Mr. Wheeler and ordered the lights installed.

Fire Department Needed

In the matter of the organization of a fire department; all the city officials were of the opinion, that inasmuch as the city now had a fire truck, that a fire department should be organized. The matter was discussed pro and con, but no definite action was taken.

A building permit was granted to R. W. Booth to erect a dwelling on Lot 14, Block 50 in the City of St. Helens.

Many other matters were taken up and discussed by the council and the business before that honorable body was not finished until a late hour.

THIRD OREGON BOYS ARRIVE IN NEW YORK

The liner Canopic arrived in New York February 19, with Companies A, B, C and D of the 162nd infantry. This was originally the third Oregon regiment.

Field and staff headquarters, machine gun companies and medical detachments of the 162nd were also aboard. Colonel May of Portland is in command of the regiment.

"Out of 3700 boys that I took over I am bringing back 1223," said Colonel May. "We had 600 casualties, among which only two were seriously wounded. The rest of the troops are scattered all over France."

The Women's club met February 8th, at the city library, which was looking fresh in a new coat of kalmesine, the gift of friends. The annual Washington tea will be given February 25th at Mrs. John Stens. An entertainment will be given St. Patrick's night for the scholarship loan fund; a fund from which young women may borrow for their education. Mrs. Flora Owen has been re-elected librarian for the coming year.

NORBLAD IS WRATHY AT ST. HELENS CITIZENS

Objects to Objections to His Bill for Judicial District

Senator A. W. Norblad, who many think was the father or instigator of Senate Bill 190, the purpose of which was to take Columbia county from Clatsop in the 20th judicial district and place it with Washington in the 19th district, has written a voluminous letter to the St. Helens Chamber of Commerce, setting forth SOME of his reasons for the proposed change. The Mist, wishing to be fair to the senator, is glad to give space to the most important portions of his letter. The senator said he was much surprised at a recent article which appeared in the Mist relative to the bill and the inference is that he was considerably surprised at the opposition which developed against the bill.

Political Clique Blamed

Senator Norblad tries to convey the impression that the opposition to the bill is for political purposes only, for he states, "Evidently Mr. Morton has the interests of a certain clique of politicians and the desire to vent his personal spleen, more at heart, than the welfare of the county." The senator stepped off on the wrong foot in this instance, as it appears that he tries to befog the issue by indulging in personalities. The facts of the matter are that the Chamber of Commerce received a copy of the bill and immediately wired a protest. The matter was brought up in open meeting and every one of the 35 members present, went on record as opposing it (the Norblad) bill. A petition was circulated in St. Helens, and signed by every one to whom it was presented (with the exception of two people) and the petition was forwarded to Senator Banks with the request that he use his influence against the bill.

Petition is Ignored

From the fact that Banks aided in putting the bill through, notwithstanding the request of the people here and elsewhere in Columbia county, is indicative of the deep interest that both he and Norblad have taken in Columbia county, and bears out the contention that some motive other than that of serving Columbia, prompted both senators to act as champions of the bill, even in the face of the strong opposition to it.

Norblad is frank in discussing the merits of the bill for he states, "Now then, as to the merits of the bill of the judicial division; they are all with Columbia county to anyone who is open to conviction. Of course if a person is willing to accept Morton's statement for it and nothing else, the bill is a bad one for your county."

Forgetting that he had spoken of accepting Morton's statement, Mr. Norblad in his wild and disconnected letter makes another statement, which shows conclusively that HE WAS NOT CONSIDERING COLUMBIA COUNTY, but using his office to haul some of his Astoria opponents, for he says, "the opposition to the bill has developed in Clatsop county among just a few persons. Clyde Fulton is the principal opponent to it. Fulton has written a number of letters to members of the legislature urging its defeat. WHY?" The Mist believes that Fulton wrote to members of the legislature asking them to defeat Norblad's bill because he is friendly to Columbia county and did not see the wisdom of making the change Norblad suggested.

In further argument (?) for his bill, Norblad says "the population has nothing to do with the expediency of the cases. It is the record of law trials and law business that counts." This statement is taken by friends of Judge Eakin as a slur at the judge, for it is a well known fact that Norblad has been bitter in his criticism of Eakin on account of Eakin's handling the court business as he saw fit instead of taking the plans of others. "Astoria," continues Mr. Norblad, "is a seaport town and naturally has far more potential law business than Washington county." Every one is willing to admit this fact, but at the same time, it is desired to call to Mr. Norblad's attention that St. Helens is virtually a sea port town and that Columbia county is a lumbering and shipping county, and if the law business of Clatsop is "potential," as the senator expresses it, there is no reason why this same "potential" clause does not apply to Columbia and St. Helens, whose interests are identical with Clatsop and Astoria.

Interjects Crude Politics

Senator Norblad, warming up in his condemnation of all who oppose his political scheme, delivers what, apparently, he considered a body blow, for he states, "from the standpoint of the politicians, it would perhaps be better to have Columbia tied to Clatsop. Why?" Because the Fulton crowd of Clatsop county and the Morton crowd of Columbia county work together." The so-called Fulton crowd and their aid was enlisted when it was explained to them that the impression in Clatsop county (possibly originating with the Norblad crowd) as to Columbia being desirous of being detached from Clatsop, was a false impression, and when this became known, Astoria friends of Columbia county, came to rescue

BALLAGH TO KILL SENATE BILL 190

AT CITIZENS REQUEST

Representative Promises to Use His Influence Against Bill

The St. Helens Chamber of Commerce is in receipt of a letter from Representative Edison I. Ballagh, in which he states, that acting upon the petition of taxpayers of St. Helens and other Columbia county sections, he will do his utmost to prevent the passage of Senate Bill No. 190, the purpose of which was to divorce Columbia county from Clatsop county in the twentieth judicial district and place this county with Washington.

The Mist is also in receipt of a letter from the representative stating substantially what he told the Chamber of Commerce, and adds that the bill, which was passed by the senate, had been referred to the House committee, and that he thought the committee would neglect to report on it. In the event that they did report, he thought there would be an unfavorable report. This statement is taken to indicate that Mr. Ballagh has heeded the request of his constituents and that he will be guided by their wishes.

From his letters it is inferred that he has already taken up with the House committee, who had the bill in charge, the advisability of making an unfavorable report and that he must have had assurance that the committee would abide by his wishes.

Friends of Mr. Ballagh are much gratified that he has taken such action relative to the bill, and the Chamber of Commerce, through a vote of its members, have sent Mr. Ballagh a telegram thanking him for the action he has taken.

Representatives Agree

It is understood that Mr. Ballagh has had this matter up with the representatives from the several counties concerned in the change of judicial districts, and that they have agreed to abide by his wishes.

In this event, it is almost sure that Senate Bill No. 190 will never become a law and that Columbia and Clatsop will remain in the Twentieth Judicial district, a fact that is very gratifying to the many in Columbia county who prefer being with Clatsop county rather than changing to Washington.

The Mist congratulates the representative on his stand in this matter and hopes he will be able to swat the bill hard enough to promptly kill it.

INCOME TAX MAN COMING TO ST. HELENS

Out Their Reports Will Assist All Concerned in Making

In order to assist the citizens of St. Helens and surrounding country in making out their income tax reports, Milton A. Miller, collector of internal revenue, has assigned to the St. Helens district Income Tax Officer H. Barber, who will be in St. Helens at the courthouse on February 24 and 25.

The treasury department has just gotten out the income tax blanks and while the government is disposed to give some leeway in the time of making the report, it is the best policy to call on the income tax man while he is here and have the blanks properly made out.

Columbia county from the clutches of scheming politicians. No wonder Norblad is mad.

Spitework is Shown.

Just what the following has to do with the change in judicial districts, the Mist is unable to say, but it must have something to do with it, or else Norblad would not have said "it is true I ran against Eakin for judge a few years ago, and it is also true that I defeated him in Astoria for the office. It is also true in this connection that Clyde Fulton helped him (Eakin) all he could. The people of Clatsop county are for the division, but a certain bunch of politicians are not."

This statement is taken as evidence that Norblad has a spite against Eakin and is trying to rub it in, for the mere fact that he carried Astoria when running against Eakin should not be taken as an indication that the people of Columbia want to go to Washington county. In legal phraseology, the matter is irrelevant and immaterial.

In closing his epistle, Norblad says, "this is rather a rambling letter," and the Mist has no reason to dispute the assertion of the senator in this regard. The Mist has fought against Norblad's measure because it thinks the bill is against the best interest of Columbia county, and the Mist knows that it has the support of a majority of the taxpayers relative to the matter, notwithstanding Norblad's wrath. It believes, also, that the opinions of representative citizens of the county, who lived here even before Norblad set foot on America's shores, should have more weight than the opinion of one whose purpose appears to be for political gain.