

St. Helens Needs A Better Fire Alarm System And A Paid Fire Department

St. Helens Mist

OFFICIAL PAPER OF COLUMBIA COUNTY

PIONEER PAPER OF COLUMBIA COUNTY

VOLUME XXXVIII.

ST. HELENS, OREGON, FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 1919

NO. 33

NEHALEM PICNIC IS ENJOYED BY ALL

ANY MAKE JOURNEY

over Pittsburg-St. Helens Road Made Without Inconvenience

The St. Helens Chamber of Commerce picnic at Vernonia Sunday was successful from every standpoint, and several hundred who drove over St. Helens-Pittsburg road and arrived safely at their destination, are unanimous in their opinion that the trip was an enjoyable one and that they now better realize the importance of the completion of the road, or a road to the Nehalem.

Cars Start Early. Eight o'clock A. M. was the time for the cars to start from St. Helens and many of the 75 to 100 cars left just a little earlier in order to avoid the rush. All of them arrived at Vernonia before noon and without accident or inconvenience.

A big picnic was held at the Vernonia Park just below the bridge which spans Rock Creek and a number of Nehalem Valley people were present to greet their St. Helens neighbors. After dinner, many of the St. Helens people and the Nehalem people went to the Vernonia school grounds to witness a baseball game between picked nines from St. Helens and Vernonia.

It was a close and exciting game and St. Helens won by a narrow margin of ONE score, the final at the ninth inning being St. Helens, 8; Vernonia, 7.

Road is Improved. Under the direction of Roadmaster and Supervisor Uther Clark, temporary repairs were made on the road, and those who went over say the trip was made without the usual trouble. The Nehalem people were very courteous and evidently appreciated the visit of their St. Helens friends and it is thought that another picnic will be arranged, but on next occasion, the Nehalem people will be invited to St. Helens and the guests of the St. Helens Chamber of Commerce.

It was a big day and every one had a good time and came back to St. Helens a loyal and constant booster of the St. Helens-Pittsburg road.

COUNCILMAN WHEELER FORCED TO PAY \$13 FINE

and Companions Are Arrested for Fishing Without License

Councilman Charles Wheeler read the arrest of City Recorder Quick and that gentleman was pulling the net from the Nehalem river and did not have the necessary fishing license, so Wheeler must have concluded that he would not fish out of the way. Therefore he joined the Portland friends last Sunday morning to the Big Washougal river in Washington. Wheeler and his companions were having a fine time and the fish baskets were being rapidly filled with fine trout when a game warden came along and asked for licenses. Tickets were issued, but they didn't entitle any of the fishermen to fish in that county, and consequently Messrs. Wheeler, Hall and Wheeler appeared in the justice court at Vancouver, Washington, Wednesday afternoon and pleaded guilty to angling without licenses. They were fined \$13 and \$5.

Detention, Mr. Gramm, who was arrested, had a receipt for a license to fish in Skahania county, and that he thought he was fishing in that county. On behalf of the fishermen, licenses were produced which were admitted, had been dated back Saturday, inasmuch as Sunday was a holiday. The money for the license was not mailed to a Portland fishing goods house until Sunday.

Wheeler is just the least bit concerned concerning the matter, and he admits the truth of the matter which appeared in yesterday's edition. He thinks, however, that next time he fishes, he will try the Columbia county stream. He is inclined to be more sympathetic toward Mr. Quick. Possibly both of them will go fishing together and Wheeler will take his license.

ANY ATTEND THE RAINIER CHAUTAUQUA

Many St. Helens people attended Chautauqua in Rainier last week, and report a splendid program. Saturday evening a party from here went to Rainier on the train and met William Jennings Bryan speaker. Johnson took his big bass down and brought them back after the program. Those in the party were Mrs. Hattam, Alice and Anna Quick, Mrs. Philp, Marie Paulson, Mrs. Blackburn, Mrs. Thomas Ishibashi, William Russell, W. J. Fuller, J. W. Day and Lloyd Hattam. George Perry and Miss Beth Johnson of West St. Helens and Mrs. Ham Russell and Mrs. J. W. Day were several of the entertainers during the chautauqua program.

Sheriff LaBare



LABARE IS CHOSEN FOR SHERIFF'S JOB

Successor to E. C. Stanwood is Named by Judge White

To fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of E. C. Stanwood as sheriff, Judge Martin White has named H. E. LaBare. The appointment was confirmed by the county court at a special session Saturday afternoon and the newly appointed sheriff immediately took the oath of office and assumed charge of the office. Mr. LaBare has not as yet, appointed a deputy sheriff, and when interrogated by the Mist, he stated that he was not ready to make any announcement as to whom he would appoint.

Sheriff LaBare is well and favorably known throughout the county. Coming from Clatskanie where he was engaged in business, he served as deputy clerk for four years. He was elected county clerk and served a two-year term and was re-elected to the office. After leaving the clerk's office he was assistant cashier of the Columbia County bank, resigning that position to accept the position of deputy sheriff when Charles Brown resigned and existed in the U. S. army service. The many friends of Mr. LaBare believe he will acceptably fill the office of sheriff and congratulate him on having received the appointment.

MAIL TO VERNONIA IN RECORD TIME

Possibly the quickest mail delivery to Vernonia from St. Helens was made last Friday, when C. D. Sutherland took the Vernonia bundle of the St. Helens Mist and delivered them at the valley postoffice two hours later. Mr. Sutherland was given the bundle at 1 o'clock Friday afternoon and a few minutes after three o'clock the Mist was delivered to the Vernonia postmaster. The Mist has been published for 37 years, but it was the first time that papers to the Nehalem Valley were delivered a few hours after they were off the press. The quick delivery of the mail is conclusive evidence of the importance of the St. Helens-Pittsburg road and how and why the road should be completed and a mail route established. Ordinarily, the mail to Nehalem is sent via Portland or Clatskanie and from 60 to 80 hours are taken for its delivery.

REBEKAHS INSTALL NEW OFFICERS

St. Helens Rebekah Lodge No. 217, I. O. O. F., held installation of officers Thursday evening July 24th. The installation was conducted by Mrs. Florence Snelling, D. D. G. M. The members installed were Addie M. Levi, noble grand; Fay Neff, vice grand; Ella Allen, secretary; Mary Howell, treasurer; Genevive Ingham, warden; Ora Bennett, conductor; Ella E. Smith, chaplain; Florence Snelling, R. S. N. G.; Lila M. Crouse, S. N. G.; Susie Ketel, R. S. V. G.; Ethel Bjorkman, L. S. V. G.; Hazel Brittan, I. G.; Iva Brown, O. G. During the evening the incoming noble grand, Ada M. Levi, was presented with a handsome gavel. After installation those present adjourned to the dining room where light refreshments were served. At present the Rebekahs have a membership of 109.

TOWING COMPANY IS ORGANIZED

Articles of incorporation were filed in Salem Wednesday by the St. Helens Towing Company. The incorporators are H. F. McCormick, Orin Shepard, Charles L. Wheeler, Clyde Sutherland and John L. Storf. The purpose of the corporation is to operate boats between Lewiston, Idaho and the Columbia river bar and ocean going crafts between Portland and ports of the world. The capital stock is \$10,000.

SOLDIERS ARE SORE AT JUDGE WHITE

NO RECOGNITION GIVEN Returned Soldiers and Sailors Say They Are Not Considered

The returned soldiers and sailors, or those who have brought their grievances to the Mist do not feel very friendly toward Judge Martin White and the county commissioners. They claim that they should have had some recognition in their petitions which were presented to the court. The trouble, it seems, has arisen from the appointment of H. E. LaBare as sheriff. The soldiers claim they have nothing against Mr. LaBare and believe he will make a good sheriff, but they do think that Judge Martin White should have paid some attention to the petitions presented to him.

Soldiers Recommended.

From the best and most reliable information obtainable, it seems that a lengthy petition was presented asking that J. H. Wellington be appointed sheriff. Another petition was drawn in favor of Charles Brown, formerly deputy sheriff. Mr. Wellington was among the first of Columbia county's men to enlist and he served in the navy for more than two years. In order to be accepted in the navy he had to give up a pension of \$15 per month which he was receiving for wounds and a incapacity received during the Spanish-American war. Wellington points out that while he gave up his pension in order to serve his country, that Judge Martin White is receiving a pension for services during the Indian war, and he thought that the judge would show a fellow comrade some consideration. Judge White, however, saw fit to appoint someone else as sheriff.

Brown's Friends Wrathful.

The friends of Charles Brown are also wrathful. They say Brown resigned his position as deputy sheriff and enlisted in the army and served in the army overseas for more than two years. They think that Judge White should have considered this fact when making the appointment. It is understood that Judge White recommended that either Wellington or Brown be appointed deputy sheriff, but both of the gentlemen have informed the Mist that under no consideration would they accept such employment. Evidently they think that inasmuch as they have given the past two years for their country's service, that Judge White should have given their applications some consideration.

There are many who agree with Wellington and Brown and are outspoken as to what they think Judge White should have done and it is possible that the matter will be brought to the attention of the American Legion, to see, as Mr. Wellington expressed it, "if the returned soldier or sailor cannot expect some consideration at the hands of officials."

Much interest has been stirred up over the matter and it is possible that developments will follow.

CITY COUNCIL HOLDS IMPORTANT MEETING

STREET WORK COMES UP City Dads Consider Ways and Means to Have Streets Improved

The regular meeting of the city council was postponed on Monday night on account of their being no quorum. The mayor called a special meeting for Wednesday night and there was a full attendance.

The big matter of importance was the improvement of certain streets, and the city attorney was instructed to prepare ordinances authorizing such improvement.

It is understood that the mayor and council are anxious to get such improvements under way as soon as possible so that the work can be completed before the winter weather. By doing so, they think that much money can be saved for the property owners.

At the next meeting of the council interested property owners will be present and they are expected to help the council in arriving at a conclusion. The ordinances for street improvements will come up for final reading at this meeting.

Another matter which caused considerable discussion was the repair of certain sewers in Sewer District No. 1. There seemed to be some question in the minds of the mayor and councilmen as to whether the sewer was privately owned or had been taken over by the city, and as to where to lay the responsibility for the break in the sewer and as to who would have to foot the bill in case the needed repairs were made, but inasmuch as the faulty sewer had been a bone of contention for the past three or four years and, moreover, the fact that the city health officer had declared it a menace to the health of the community, the mayor and council instructed the clerk to notify the property owners that the sewer must be repaired "forthwith," and in case of their failure so to do, the city will repair the said sewer and endeavor to straighten out the tangle afterwards.

An ordinance was read for the first and second times granting the Standard Oil company the right to build a spur track along Oregon street. Minor questions were taken up and disposed of, and the council adjourned.

MAN'S BODY FOUND IN COLUMBIA RIVER

Tuesday afternoon a member of the crew of the steamer Iralda noticed the body of a man floating in the Columbia river a few miles above Warrior Rock lighthouse. The body was tied up to a nearby float and Coroner White notified. From all appearances the body had been in the water for several months and was badly decomposed. A gold watch, Elgin make, was found on the body and also a purse containing several \$10 bills. Apparently the man was 40 or 45 years old. Identification was impossible and the body was buried Wednesday afternoon.

Champ Bomber



Chaplain F. C. Thompson, "The Fighting Preacher" with the A. E. F., is the champion grenade hurler of all nations. He won this honor while competing in the big inter-allied games at the new Pershing stadium in Paris recently. Thompson was formerly at Princeton university and was holder of world's all-around champion in 1910, 1911 and 1913.

FAIR FRENCH MAID WRITES W. B. DILLARD

Is Interested in St. Helens and Would Like to Come Here, She Says

Its a long, long way from St. Helens to Sunny France, but there is a fair maid in that country who wants to come to St. Helens. W. B. Dillard is the Mist's informant as to this fact, and he bases his statement on a letter he received from some French girl making known her wishes as to coming to the United States. She writes, as Mr. Dillard states, as though she knew him well and mentions having seen his picture. Mr. Dillard thinks that it is possible that the young lady might have met his son Walden, who is yet in France, and with the American Expeditionary Force. At any rate, his curiosity is aroused and he is going to write to the French maiden and ascertain if his theory is correct.

JAP ESCAPES FROM BOAT—IS CAPTURED

Foreigners are not allowed to come into this country without a passport, but often they make an attempt to do so nevertheless. This was the case with a Jap who was seen walking down the track at Houlton Tuesday. He had heard that the U. S. was a land of peace and plenty and so when the boat on which he was employed, landed at Portland he took advantage of his opportunity, landed and began walking down the railroad track. When Sheriff LaBare picked him up near Deer Island, he was bare foot and carried an old torn coat on his arm. He "no speak American" and "no understand ship" so he was held in the county jail until a U. S. immigration officer came for him later in the evening. He was able to pick out his picture from that of a number of other Japs, and was taken to Portland. Two other Japs escaped at the same time he did, but no trace has been found of them as yet.

IMPROVEMENT MADE AT BEACH RESORT

Under the leadership and direction of J. H. Cronkite, necessary improvements have been made at Columbia Beach and this popular resort has been made more attractive and convenient. W. E. Lillard, Kit Conyers, John Ommundson and Chris Ommundson, assisted by others, have built two dressing houses, one for men and one for women. Each structure is divided into eight small rooms. Mr. Lillard thinks he will be able to arrange with the water commission to lay a line from the St. Helens-Columbia City main, direct to the beach. The cost will be about \$200 and he thinks the amount can be raised by popular subscription. Several landing floats have been moored close to the shore and those who wish to go down to the beach by boat can land without the difficulty formerly experienced.

NEW BUILDING FOR COLUMBIA STREET

E. G. Ditto has closed a deal with the First National bank of St. Helens whereby he becomes the owner of the vacant lot which adjoins the Rutherford buildings opposite the Plaza. It is Mr. Ditto's intention to erect a modern building on the premises and a portion of the building will be used by him for his hardware store. The improvement anticipated will cost about \$10,000 and it is expected that work on the building will soon be started.

TELEPHONE RATES TO BE INCREASED

EFFECTIVE ON JULY 29

Phone Company to Increase Rates to Meet Increased Expenditures

Those who have phones in their residences must pay a portion of the increased cost of operation of the telephone system. An announcement which appears in this issue of the Mist informs the public as to the necessity of such increase. Some months ago the rate on business phones was raised and now the company proposes to equalize the rates, so they are going to take a rap at the residence phones. The rate has been raised on this class of business 25 cents per month and the "interurban" rates have been raised from \$1.00 per month to \$3.00 per month. By "interurban" is meant, so far as this locality is concerned, the phones in Warren, Bachelor Flat and intermediate points. The "farmer lines" such as Yankton and Trenholm are not affected.

Company Explains Increase.

The following letter received from the phone company explains why they were compelled to make an increase in rates:

"The increased rates for telephone service effective July 29th, which affect the entire State of Oregon, are a direct consequence of the heavy increase in wages effective June 1st, amounting to in excess of \$225,000 for the state of Oregon. These wages go to the people who work for the telephone company and who render this service.

"The public has been very familiar with the difficulties involved in attempting to give telephone service under wages heretofore in effect. These rates are put in by the Federal Administration effective at once, because of the financial necessities precipitated by this heavy increase in wages. The rates in each particular instance are rates approved by the Postmaster General on or before June 6, 1919. These particular rates are made effective for the reason that in each instance they are believed to be just and reasonable, in and of themselves, for the service to which they apply.

"They also constitute the only unquestionable legal rates in each and every instance. The public has been paying rates recently fixed in an order issued by the Public Service Commission of Oregon, which became effective May 1, 1919.

"With regard to the Public Service Commission and its order, it will be remembered by the public that the investigation instituted by the commission last November, and one of the most thorough ever carried out by any commission, resulted in an increase of rates effective in May.

"The relief involved in that order, as stated by the commission, was designed to cover only wage increase which had been made effective the year previous, with particular reference to wage increases in November, 1918. The commission withheld the application of increased rates until the first of May, and then made applicable the rates which have been paid since May 1st.

"The validity of the commission's action and of their order has been attacked in the state courts and the telephone company and the Federal Administration are forced to the conclusion that the only rates, the legality of which is beyond question, are the rates actually approved by the Postmaster General during the period of Federal control. They are the rates contemplated by the act of Congress and which will be effective for four months after Federal control or until reviewed by state authorities.

"The increased rates will yield an annual revenue upwards of \$250,000, but as the increase in wages is upwards of \$225,000, the net return to the company with the new rates now made effective is approximately 2 1/2 per cent on the valuation of its property at \$13,464,000, as found by the Public Service Commission.

"The new schedule of rates is identical with the one approved by the Postmaster General for the state of Washington, which was made effective March 1, 1919. The rates are the same in both states for exchanges that are comparable.

"All business taken on and after July 29th will be at the new rates, and bills to present subscribers for the month of August will be rendered at the new rates.

"The expenses of the telephone company have increased greatly, but in only a few cases have any increases been made in telephone rates. Most of the rates have remained the same as they were many years ago. Substantial increases in wages have recently been granted to employees and the only way to pay these increased wages is to make an increase in rates.

"We believe that no further proof as to the advanced cost of living and the general high cost prevailing for labor and materials is necessary, and that the telephone-using public will accept this increase in telephone rates in the same spirit of fairness and consideration as it has the advance in almost every other necessity in these unusual times."

Tell President of Mexican Murder



Mrs. John Correll and her 16-year-old son are now in Washington, from their ranch near Tampico, Mexico, where facts regarding the murder of the husband and father, John W. Correll by Mexican bandits are being placed before President Wilson. The Carranza government realizing the seriousness of the situation at a late hour agrees to "punish" the bandits. Correll was killed when he interfered as the bandits shot at his son—and two assaulted his wife.