

# THE ST. HELENS MIST

VOLUME XLII

ST. HELENS, OREGON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1922

Number 1

## ST. HELENS ANSWERS ASTORIA'S CALL

Ad Rushed to Stricken City and Citizens Ready to do More if Relief Committee Calls—Bread and Potatoes are Sent to Destitute.

Only a few hours had elapsed at the news of the Astoria fire when relief committees of the St. Helens Chamber of Commerce were in touch with the Astoria relief committee. Mayor Ballagh asked what St. Helens could do and the response was to send bread and potatoes. The mayor consulted President Flynn and Secretary Stork of the St. Helens Chamber of Commerce and immediate action was taken towards securing the articles requested.

Arrangements were made with the stevedore of the West St. Helens bakery to ship 1,000 loaves of bread by express Friday night and "Heine" at the whole bakery force to work at the bread went to the sufferers.

Another 1,000 loaves were shipped Saturday night and a similar shipment made Sunday night. The potatoes were also shipped Saturday.

Mayor Ballagh was in Astoria Monday to call on the relief committee and ascertain if anything further could be done by St. Helens. The chairman of the committee reported that the situation was well taken care of and supplies necessary for immediate relief of the sufferers had been received and it was decided to make no further shipments until asked for by the committee.

In speaking of the appearance of the burned district Mayor Ballagh said: "My words cannot depict the devastation. From near the S. P. 4 S depot to the court house and post office there is nothing but smoldering ashes, tottering walls that were part of substantial buildings and a mass of twisted iron and debris. The Astoria people, while disheartened at the terrible catastrophe, have not and will not give up and already plans are being made for the rebuilding of the destroyed section of the city and it is the plan to make it more modern and substantial. It will take, the mayor said, "but Phoenix in Astoria will arise from the ashes of the ruins and will be a bigger and better town than ever before."

The chairman of the relief committee wished the mayor to express thanks of the people of Astoria to St. Helens and assured him that his community had acted more promptly than did St. Helens.

A number of the people of St. Helens were particularly interested in the Astoria situation. Among them were Mr. and Mrs. Lew Cates, Senator A. W. Norblad, well known attorney, who is a son-in-law of Mr. Cates, lost his law library and valuable papers. The loss is about \$20,000. Mr. Cates reported Senator Norblad was in Washington, D. C., when the fire occurred.

G. Clyde Fulton, another Astoria money and well known here, informed Glen R. Metzger in a telephone conversation that he lost practically all of his library. His office was located near where the fire started and he had little opportunity to save anything from the office.

R. G. Prael, who conducted an auto transfer business lost the large building occupied by the company and also a portion of the stock. His loss is about \$20,000 partially covered by insurance, so it was reported by Mrs. S. C. Morton and Miss Olga Bellhorn, his cousins.

Estimates of the loss by conservative people place it at \$15,000, 75 and from 40 to 50 per cent of this is covered by insurance.

That St. Helens might be called on for further aid was indicated by Mayor Ballagh and he was of the opinion that such aid would be forthcoming. He and Dr. Flynn called on the county court and the court set aside \$100 for the relief fund and the members of the council agreed that the city would make a similar appropriation. Officers of the St. Helens Chamber of Commerce said there would be no difficulty in raising the balance of the money necessary to cover the expense thus incurred. Both President Flynn and Secretary Stork are co-operating with the mayor and the work done and that to be done will be under the direction of the chamber.

## ST. HELENS-NEW YORK VIA LONG DISTANCE

The longest "long distance" call traced through the local telephone exchange was placed this week. The captain of one of the steamers in port wished to talk to his wife in Syracuse, New York. The distance from St. Helens to Syracuse is about 1700 miles by air line, but the telephone message traveled more than that distance; about 3500 miles to be exact. In 30 minutes after the call was made connection between St. Helens and Syracuse was established and husband was in conversation with wife. There was no necessity of the operator "repeating" for the conversation, party to party, was as distinct as though the distance was only a few miles.

Men make fun of women's dress and then rig themselves up in gorgeous costume when their lodge parades.

## WARREN CONSIDERS PLANS FOR CANNERY

Berry growers of the Warren district held a meeting Monday evening to consider plans for securing a cannery. This district is fast becoming a large berry producing section. According to estimates nearly 250 tons of berries are now coming into bearing in this district. The tonnage could be easily doubled within the next two years according to the county agent, provided a cannery was assured that would provide market facilities for this increased production. A committee consisting of County Agent Hollibaugh, James Bacon and P. E. Johnson were selected to further investigate and see what would be done to interest cannerymen in the project. Another committee consisting of Walter Johnson, Theodore Borg, E. Olston, P. E. Johnson and James Bacon will make a complete survey of the Warren district for the purpose of ascertaining what acreage is now in berries and additional acreage that could be secured.

## COMMERCE BODY WANTS PRESIDENT

The annual meeting of the St. Helens Chamber of Commerce will be held at the office of the Columbia River Stevedoring company on the evening of January 3, 1923. Officers and a board of directors are to be elected. Dr. J. H. Flynn is the president of the chamber and he does not wish to have the office for the ensuing year. A number of representative citizens have been suggested as successors to President Flynn but it seems to be a case of "many called but few are chosen." For instance, Sherman Miles, a director of the chamber says that his legislative duties might interfere with the duties incumbent upon the president of the chamber. J. W. Thompson, also a director, says that he could not spare the time to be president. J. H. Gilby, who is vice-president of the chamber, said that it would be impossible for him to properly attend to the duties of the office even though he was given a promotion. Hugh Mason declined to be a candidate as did H. F. McCormick and Harry Bennett declined to allow his name to go before the nominating committee.

It has been suggested that the names of S. Darlow Johnson, Glen Williams, Edward Jones and Charles Graham be submitted at the meeting. All of them are representative business men and should any of them be elected it is assured that they will do everything possible to continue the constructive work of the chamber.

## WELLINGTON WARNS RECKLESS DRIVERS

Sheriff Wellington has started another campaign, but this time the campaign is for the public rather than one who is seeking office. The story is brief, because brevity is a characteristic of the sheriff. He said: "The state law relative to auto traffic officers requires that after sunset an auto must display two headlights and a tail light. It has come to my attention that a number of auto drivers in St. Helens and vicinity have not observed this regulation. The auto driver who disregards this law invites accident, and, too often, the innocent suffer. I have instructed my deputies to strictly enforce the law in this respect for I believe that the observance of the law will lessen accidents."

The sheriff is going right down the line on the enforcement of this law and The Mist advises auto owners to look up the book of rules regulating highway traffic. One thing to remember is this: When driving after sunset there must be two headlights on the car and one tail-light, and when approaching a car the starting headlights must be turned off, the dimmers used, or, if the car has no small lights, the headlights must be dimmed.

An observance of these rules will have a tendency to lessen accidents and aid in making the highway safe for travel.

## OFFICERS ELECTED BY PYTHIAN SISTERS

Ava Temple No. 19, Pythian Sisters elected the following officers at their regular meeting on December 7th. Past Chief, Cora Christensen; 7th Past Chief, Cora Christensen; most excellent chief, Anna VanNatta; senior Adda Stewart; junior, Helen Svendsen; manager, Gertrude Laws; mistress of records and correspondence, S. M. Quick; mistress of finance, Haba Blakesley; protocol, Anna Richardson; guard, Mary Roy; organist, Ella George; representative to grand lodge, Leo Ballagh; press correspondent, Effie Brown.

## EASTERN STAR CHOSE OFFICERS

At their meeting Saturday night, December 9th, Mirpah Chapter, O. E. S. elected the following officers to serve for the ensuing year: Worthy Matron, Lena Garriott; worthy patron, Shelby Garriott; associate patron, Shelby Garriott; secretary, Effie C. Brown; treasurer, S. M. Quick; conductress, Elizabeth Perky; associate conductress, Ethel Bjorkman.

## HAWLEY PROMISES AID FOR LOCAL PORT

Congressman Assures Chamber of Commerce That He Will Work for Appropriation for the St. Helens Port Channel.

In a telegram to the St. Helens Chamber of Commerce, Congressman W. C. Hawley of this congressional district again promised that he would endeavor to secure an appropriation for the improvement of the channel in the Columbia river leading to St. Helens.

The telegram from the congressman was, "St. Helens Chamber of Commerce. Have been giving attention to improvement at St. Helens. Committee on Rivers and Harbors will consider matter next Tuesday with Engineers. Appreciate importance."

When Congressman Hawley was in St. Helens several years ago he was shown the harbor and made acquainted with the importance of St. Helens as a shipping port. When he was here in October last, he was again shown the harbor and the industries and it was pointed out to him that practically one-third of the lumber shipments going from the Columbia river were dispatched from St. Helens. Again the congressman promised aid in securing an appropriation for the improvement of the channel on the Oregon side of the river.

When the U. S. Engineers submitted their recommendation and it was seen that Lewis River, Clatskanie river and other small streams had been included in the budget of river and harbor work and that St. Helens was again ignored, Mayor Ballagh, the council and the St. Helens Chamber of Commerce began to use the wiles. From the telegram received from Mr. Hawley, it is evident that he received the telegrams and promises to use his influence in securing government aid for the improvement of the river channel leading to the industries of St. Helens.

The Mist hopes that the congressman will not forget to meet with the committee mentioned and that inasmuch as he has been shown the shipping statistics and once more seen the waterfront, he will not confuse the Columbia river with Milton creek, Scappoose creek or some other smaller stream which, on account of precedent, is included in the general program of river and harbor work.

## MCCORMICK MAY ERECT BUILDING

From an authentic source it is learned that H. F. McCormick, who owns the corner lot at Columbia street and Plaza Square is contemplating the building of a two- or three-story building on the lot. It is said that Mr. McCormick has been assured of sufficient patronage to warrant him in making the investment which will be about \$12,000. Mr. McCormick neither denies or affirms the report but inasmuch as he has owned the property for a number of years and bought it with the idea of making an improvement, the rumor of his building plans seems well founded.

Mrs. Golden Starr Scott and children will leave next week for Spokane, Washington, to spend the holiday season with relatives.

## LUMBER CARGOES FOR WEEK LARGE

Several Coastwise Shipments and Cargo Loaded on Jap Boat for Orient—Lumber Cargo Loaded for New York.

## INLAND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE TO MEET

The postponed meeting of the Inland Highway committee will be held in the dining room of the Orcadia hotel Saturday evening. The dinner will be at 7:30 o'clock and the business meeting will follow. Lester Sheeley, secretary of the Vernonia Commercial club telephoned to John L. Stork of the St. Helens Chamber of Commerce that not less than 20 people from Columbia, Clatsop and Multnomah counties would attend the meeting. Among the number will be Judge T. S. Cornelius, county judge of Clatsop county, who is a strong advocate of the building of the Inland highway. It is considered by many that the highway (which goes from Astoria to Washington county and through the Nehalem valley) should be declared a part of the state's highway and should receive aid from the state highway commission. The purpose of the meeting is to formulate plans for such action and bring it to the attention of the highway commission.

## WEEKLY HAPPENINGS IN HIGH SCHOOL

The Hesperian Literary society program has been a decided success, thanks to the training of Mrs. Downstey. S. Darlow Johnson loaned his stereopticon machine and also his services as an operator. In spite of the inclement weather there was a fairly good crowd and every one seemed pleased with the evening's entertainment.

Everyone misses Kenneth Pratt, who has been absent on account of sickness for several weeks. Kenneth was always one of the live wires of the school and we all hope that he will be able to return soon.

Classes in room 3 have been interrupted recently by the visits of a mouse which sallies forth from behind the radiator at irregular intervals, causing a great deal of disturbance among the girls.

The Seniors held a meeting in room 5 Wednesday. The class rings and pins have come and as soon as the finances are arranged the Seniors will be proudly sporting their jewelry.

At a meeting of the student body Wednesday the following officers were elected for the annual staff: Editor-in-chief, Marion Mortan; assistant, Oscar Madsen; literary editor, Louise Hankey; society editor, Helen Doid; dramatic editor, Blanche Perry; athletic editor, John Sten; art editor, Harriet Ross; joke editor, Bergen Bellville; assistant, Marion Sten; business manager, Ora Hatan; faculty advisors, Mrs. S. W. Downs and Jay Austin.

Candidates for positions on the high school basketball team have been practicing faithfully and it appears that St. Helens will have a strong aggregation this season. It seems certain that Pon Binkesley will be guard, Bellville, forward; Paul Neff, center; Reuben, forward; Jack Gilby and Ben O'Connor, guards. Other aspirants for the team who are playing good games and improving with each practice are "Bony" Bennett, Sante Canaparoh, Oscar Madsen and Doane Sutherland.

## HIGHWAY COMMISSION TO AID ASTORIA

Because the main street of Astoria is practically a portion of the Columbia highway and because a considerable portion of it was destroyed in the fire which devastated the business section of Astoria, the relief committee asked the state highway commission to rebuild that portion of the street or highway which was destroyed. In order to discuss the matter and arrive at some conclusion there was a meeting of the highway commission in Portland Wednesday. The meeting was attended by delegates from Astoria and several members of the next legislature, among them being Representative Sherman M. Miles. He reported that the commission was favorable to the request of Astoria and at the next session of the legislature a bill would be introduced authorizing the commission to give the aid requested. Representative Miles was one of the legislators who pledged his support to this necessary project. He said, "from favorable sentiment expressed by those who will be members of the next legislature I believe that necessary action will be taken and that the legislature will be heartily in favor of doing whatever possible for the relief of Astoria."

## NEEDY FAMILIES TO RECEIVE AID

That some of the needy families in St. Helens will receive aid at Christmas time is the program upon which Mrs. Golden Starr Scott, executive secretary of the Red Cross is working on. She asks that persons having spare clothing for mothers and children leave such articles at the office of the Rutherford Realty company. She and a number of other ladies who are interested in Red Cross work will see to it that the articles are properly distributed and among those who need them the worst.

County Clerk J. W. Hunt returned to St. Helens Thursday night after attending a two-day session of annual meeting of county clerks of Oregon which was held in Portland.

## WINTRY WEATHER GRIPS NORTHWEST

Heavy Snowfall and Cold Weather Prevails—Logging Camps Are Closed but Mills Operating—Much Ice in the River.

Oregon is experiencing a "cold wave." It is general all over the state and St. Helens is no exception. Try as they might, weather bureau attaches have failed to discover anything that indicates warmer weather, but they have given the assurance that it will not be any colder.

Locally the cold weather began Wednesday morning. There was a biting wind from the north and the mercury hovered around 10 below the freezing point. Wednesday night showed no moderation and Thursday morning there was a snowfall which lasted through most of the day. The temperature varied from 29 degrees above zero to 24 above but on Thursday night the mercury sank to 18 degrees above zero.

In the hills back of St. Helens and in the higher altitudes in the county there was a heavy snowfall. At Trenchholm a ground is covered to a depth of 24 inches and in the Bunker Hill section the snow is deeper.

The logging camps of the Nehalem Timber company, Deer Island Logging company, the Columbia Timber company and the Milton Creek Logging company have closed down because it is impossible to operate under present weather conditions. All of the camps will resume work soon after the holidays, weather permitting.

It is reported that the camps on the Kerry logging railroad have been compelled to close down on account of the snow, and in the Nehalem valley the camps have also closed.

There is considerable floating ice in the Columbia river and while it has interfered with navigation on the upper river no difficulty has been experienced by either river steamers or ocean-going vessels between Astoria, St. Helens and Portland.

The cold weather of Wednesday put the ponds and lakes in the vicinity of St. Helens in excellent condition for skating and the youngsters and a few of the grown-ups enjoyed the sport, but the snowfall of Thursday made the sport impossible so the youngsters have taken to their sleds and several sleighs have taken the place of the trusty "Lizzie" which many farmers use. The weather, as yet has not interfered with the operation of the local mills nor the loading of the several vessels in port.

## NEWS BRIEFS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Miss Edna Christie, of Portland, spent Sunday in St. Helens with her father, H. W. Christie, who has been quite sick.

P. A. Dixon was a business visitor in Astoria Tuesday. He said: "The burned district presents a scene I have not words to express."

Mrs. F. W. Christie of Astoria visited with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Christie of this city for several days this week.

Dave Cagle who lives on the old Bunker Hill road west of Yankton was in St. Helens Thursday. He reports that the snow in his section of the county is about 2 feet deep and that when he left home it was still snowing.

The bazaar given by the ladies of Plymouth Congregational church on Wednesday evening was a success from both a social and financial standpoint. During the afternoon several hundred people called at the church parlor and made purchases of the various articles on display. Lunch was served in the afternoon and a splendid dinner served in the evening. The receipts were about \$450 and will be used for church purposes.

The committee who is making arrangements for the K. of P. dance at the Blue Rose Dance room on Saturday evening, December 23, are confident that it will be a great success. A number of members who live out of town have informed the committee that they will attend and bring others from their respective communities. Captain Orin Shepherd, one of the committee, said, "We expect every member of Avon Lodge who live in this section to attend the dance and we are figuring on having a real lodge reunion."

## CHRISTMAS BAZAAR SATURDAY AFTERNOON

The ladies of the Methodist Aid society will hold their annual Christmas bazaar and cooked food sale in the church parlors of the Methodist church tomorrow (Saturday) afternoon. The bazaar begins at two o'clock and lasts until 8 o'clock. There will be an attractive display of fancy work and needed and useful garments. A parcel post and candy sale will be among the features of the bazaar. Dinner will be served from 6 to 8 o'clock. A cordial invitation is extended to the public to attend the bazaar.

## A Christmas Creed

By Martha Thomas

**I** BELIEVE in Santa Claus. I believe no hair is snowier, no cheeks redder, no smile merrier and no eyes more twinkling than his. I believe the heart of him is big enough to encompass the world—IF PEOPLE WOULD LET IT! I believe in the jingle of his sleigh bells, the swiftness of his reindeer, the sound of their tapping feet on the roof. I believe in chimneys, big, broad, deep-throated chimneys that will not cramp the Merry Gentleman with his bulging pack. I believe in solemn rows of stockings hanging by the fire—father's short one, mother's long one and the dangling ones of the children, all waiting and expectant. I believe in the invisible blossom of happiness that Santa Claus leaves at every house and I believe that it will grow through all the year if people try to keep the spirit of Christmas every day.