

The Oregon Mist

Founded 1881

Entered at the Postoffice at St. Helens, Oregon, as second-class mail matter.

Issued Every Friday by

The Mist Publishing Company

George H. Flagg
Editor and Manager

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One year.....\$1.50
Six months......75
Advertising rates made known on application. Legal notices 25 cents per line.

County Official Paper

County Court.

The County Court finished the work of the September term last Tuesday and adjourned until their next regular monthly meeting the first Wednesday in October.

There was the usual amount of new and old road work to attend to and the Board of County Road Viewers were instructed to meet at the following places on the dates named:

S. Rock road, September 20th.

C. D. White road, September 18.

R. L. Welch road, September 19.

N. A. Andress road, September 21.

The petition to change the place for expending some of the money in Road District No. 4 was denied, on account of irregularities in the matter.

The petition for a liquor license in Goble precinct for Makinster and Nuss baumer was denied on account of mistakes in the publication.

During the most of the 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th, the matter of granting a liquor license to G. B. Milloy for Scappoose precinct was considered, and at noon on the 9th it was ordered issued.

The petition of P. Sharpe for a road was denied on account of a claim for \$3000 damages.

The petition of Cooper Whitney for a road was allowed.

The petition of A. D. Holladay and Fritz Anliker for county roads was denied on account of unfavorable reports of the viewers.

The petition of G. C. Fowler was denied on account of damages.

The petition of Olaf Oleen for damages on account of the Pickney road was denied.

The resignation of E. L. Nut as Justice of the Peace in Rainier Precinct was accepted and J. B. E. Bourne appointed to fill the vacancy.

The petition of the Clatskanie Commercial Club for a bridge across the Clatskanie was continued, but their petition for an appropriation to rock road in Dist. 13 was allowed in the sum \$600.

The petition of W. H. Howard for remission of tax was allowed on all asked for except a valuation of \$890.

W. E. Stevens was allowed damages in the sum of \$15 for accident to horses and wagon on county road.

The bid of C. J. Lindberg at \$460, for work in district No. 8 was accepted.

COLUMBIA WINS PRIZE

The prizes were awarded at the State Fair last Tuesday for the county exhibits and Columbia was there for one of them. Benton won first, Clackamas second, Polk third, Columbia fourth, and Clatsop and Coos were fifth and sixth.

For this county to beat the big counties of the Willamette Valley such as Benton, Clackamas and Polk on the amount that is appropriated for an exhibit each year would be an impossibility. They all of them put up a larger amount of money and another big advantage that they have is their location so near to Salem. In beating Clatsop and Coos the fair commissioner, C. R. Lake, won plenty of honor for this county this year and must have had an exhibit that attracted considerable attention among the thousands who attended the Fiftieth Annual State Fair.

MURDERER STILL AT LARGE

Despite the fact that Sheriff Thompson, Deputy Lake and their assistants have worked night and day on the matter, and have done everything in the power of anyone, more than a week has passed since the discovery of the bodies of Mrs. Daisy Wehrman and her three-year-old son, Harold, in the family cabin, six miles northwest of Scappoose, and the authorities are no nearer solution of the crime than at first.

It has been ascertained the murder was committed late Monday and not Sunday night as at first believed. When Frank Wehrman, husband of the murdered woman, left the house Sunday, Mrs. Wehrman remarked that there was no bread in the house. When the double murder was discovered a fresh batch of bread was found in the kitchen, indicating that Mrs. Wehrman had baked bread Monday, as was her custom.

The theory that the murder was the work of a tramp has been abandoned and there exists in the minds of practically all who have had to do with the case the feeling that the culprit, if ever apprehended, will be found to be a resident of the neighborhood. Assault has been established as the motive.

In this connection if it could be proved who took the Wehrman mail from the postoffice at Scappoose the Monday immediately preceding the discovery of the body the mystery would in a measure be solved. One theory is that this person may be the murderer, but the postmaster does not remember and can throw on light on this feature of the case.

A paper from the family's old home in Iowa was taken from the postoffice Monday, the day after Frank E. Wehrman, the husband, left for Portland to resume his work. It was found, still wrapped, in the cabin when Mrs. Wehrman's body was discovered. A package of stenciled muslin, left in the cross-roads' mail box by Mrs. George Bates on Saturday, was also found unwrapped indicating that someone took it from the box and held it, with the paper taken from the postoffice Monday, as an excuse for visiting the Wehrman home.

When the body of Mrs. Wehrman was found her feet were encased in rubbers the cleanness of which indicated that she had not been outside the house after putting them on. It has also been established that she went to the mail box only once in six months of her residence in the neighborhood.

The authorities know of at least two strangers who were in Scappoose Monday, but there is no way to ascertain which, if either, of them got the mail. It is also believed that one did not return but came to Portland.

It has also been established that the wisp of hair which was found in the left hand of the murdered woman was not that of her little son. Close examination has disclosed that hair clasped in her right hand, that nearest the boy as the bodies were lying when found, came from the boys head.

Sheriff Thompson and Deputy Sheriffs Lake and Grant, of Columbia County, have not yet ceased working on the mystery. They are engaged in investigating certain apparent inaccuracies in the statements of neighbors of the Wehrman family and in tracing the movements of those who have not been able to give clear explanations of their whereabouts in the three or four day, preceding the discovery of the crime.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that a special election will be held September 16th, 1911, in the City of St. Helens, Oregon, and certain districts on its northerly boundary as hereinafter described to vote on the question of annexing the following described and bounded territory to the City, to-wit:

Beginning at a point where the center line of the N. P. R. R. Co's. right of way crosses the northerly line of the H. M. Knights D. L. C. in Tps. 4 and 5 N R 1 W W M, thence northerly following the center line of said R R right of way to a point due west of a tract of land described in book 11 at page 559 of Record of Deeds for Columbia County Oregon, thence east to the southwesterly corner of said tract, thence S 60 degrees 15 minutes, E 5 chains; thence N 56 degrees 45 minutes, E 18 72-100 chains; thence S 6 degrees 50 minutes E 1976 3-10 feet to northerly line of a tract of land described in O at page 382 Record of Deeds of Columbia County, Oregon. Thence N 71 degrees 30 minutes E to center of Columbia River, thence S 17 degrees 10 minutes E 10 chains, thence S 71 degrees and 30 minutes W to N E corner of the H. M. Knight D L C. Thence S 71 degrees 30 minutes W following northerly line of said H. M. Knight D L C to the place of beginning.

The election to be held within the City of St. Helens, Oregon, at the City Hall.

The election to be held in said proposed territory in the blacksmith shop in Railroad Addition.

The polls will be open 8 o'clock A. M. and closed at 7 P. M. of said day.

JOHN Q. GAGE,
City Recorder.

GOOD ROAD MOVEMENT.

Three separate lines of activity are at present making the progress of the Pacific Highway, work on which is now urged with great vigor to prepare for the thousands of tourists who are expected to motor along the Pacific coast four years hence, when they visit the Panama-Pacific Exposition at San Francisco.

The Flanders pathfinding party at present blazing a trail for the Pacific Highway Association and the British Columbia government from Seattle to Hazelton, B. C., within sixty miles of the Alaska boundary, is well into the wilds of the Canadian province now, and is expected to reach its destination by the end of the week.

The Association is urging upon the motorists of California the necessity for a definite route from the American border to the City of Mexico, and within the last two weeks has offered a gold medal for the first trail blazing party establishing a route to the capital of the southern republic that may be developed and made practical during the next four years.

Officials of the Association in Oregon, together with Secretary Frank M. Fretwell, having been working the entire present week in marking the highway thru that state, from Portland to the California line, and it will soon be possible to travel from San Francisco to Vancouver, B. C., and find a guid post of the Pacific Highway at every turn of the road.

The extension of the Pacific Highway at the northern and southern ends will add about 1,000 miles, and give it a total length of something more than 3,000 miles. The government of British Columbia already has pledged to construct a serviceable road to Hazelton from Vancouver, B. C., and there is little doubt that appropriations can be obtained from the government of Mexico for the establishment of a permanent road to its capital as soon as tranquility prevails in its political conditions.

At present Snoqualmie is the only practicable route to Washington or British Columbia from the coast to the interior and it is in such condition now that it is not worthy the name of "pass". Once thru the mountains, fairly good going may be had as far as Quenel, B. C., about 500 miles north and east of Seattle.

WEBB'S PARDON.

In the pardoning of Webb there seems to be but little doubt that the Governor made a mistake, and one that will have a bad effect all over the state of Oregon. If there was ever a man that deserved hanging it was Webb, and when Mr. West changed his sentence to life imprisonment, he caused a miscarriage of justice that will remove from all criminals the fear of the noose. If West did not believe that Webb should pay for his crime with his life, then he cannot consistently allow any man to go to the gallows during his term of office as Governor of this State. Webb's crime was premeditated and for money, and the evidence was so conclusive that there could be no doubt as to the man's guilt.

Such acts seem to us to be an abuse of the power given to the Governor in these matters. The pardoning power was not meant to make of the Governor a Judge, Jury and the whole works, but was intended for use in cases where after trial and conviction new evidence was produced to show that in the sentence of the court was carried out an injustice would be done. The Governor is going to ask for the offering of large rewards for the apprehension of certain criminals, among them the man guilty of the double murder at Scappoose. It is to be hoped that if the murderer of the Wehrmans is caught, he does not have a daughter who meets and gets acquainted with the daughter of the Governor, for in that case perhaps the reward would be wasted.

THE ANNEXATION ELECTION

Once more we wish to call attention of the voters to the fact that the election for the purpose of annexing Columbia Park, Railroad Addition and other land to the City of St. Helens will be held on the 16th of September, at the City Hall. Although this proposition has not met with the opposition that was expected, and there seems at present to be no doubt but that it will carry, still all who are interested in the matter should be on hand Saturday to cast their vote and help out all that is in their power.

There seems to be absolutely no reasonable or conclusive argument against the annexing of the new territory. The town is growing rapidly to the North and the people living there want to be inside the corporate limits, while it is to the advantage of the city to become larger, and through the increase in the population thus received, the place will receive more of the recognition which is its due. The people in this section are now using city water, live practically in the town, and should receive the lights and fire protection that will go with their being annexed. Of course this will cost something, but there will be an increase in the value of the city's taxable property to make up for it. It is by pulling together that things can be accomplished, and with this fact in mind the voters will certainly cast their ballots for the union.

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CITATION

In the County Court of the State of Oregon, in the matter of the Estate of John D. Birdall, deceased.

To Alfred Ward Birdall, son and sole heir of John D. Birdall, deceased, and all other unknown, if any such there be, heirs, legatees, devisees, or assigns of said John D. Birdall, deceased.

In the name of the State of Oregon, you are hereby cited and required to appear in the County Court of the State of Oregon, for Columbia County, on Monday, the 2nd day of October, A. D. 1911, at one o'clock in the afternoon of said day, at the Court room of said County Court, in the Court house in the city of St. Helens, Columbia County, Oregon, then and there to show cause, if any there exist, why an order should not be made granting to E. E. Quirk, administrator of said estate, permission to direct him to sell the real property of said deceased at public sale, said real property being located in Columbia County, Oregon, and described as follows to-wit:

Lot number twelve (12) in block number 20, and the lots or parcels of land including the side lots, lying between The Strand and the Columbia River, East of and directly in front of lots numbered 4 and 5 in block number 14 in Columbia City, Columbia County, State of Oregon.

Witness the Hon. James Dart, Judge of the County Court of the State of Oregon, for Columbia County, with the seal of said Court attached this 30th day of August 1911.

(Seal) Attest: H. E. Labare, Clerk. Date of first publication, September 1, 1911. Date of last publication, September 29, 1911.

FOR SALE—

One yearling filly. One three inch narrow tire wagon, carriage and harness, a large barrel churn.

R. S. FAXON, Houlton.