

THE OREGON MIST

VOL. XXXI.

ST. HELENS, OREGON, FRIDAY, NOV. 24, 1911.

NO. 1.

ATTEMPTED ROBBERY

New Railroad Depot at Deer Island Broken Into

ROBBERS DRIVEN AWAY THROUGH FRIGHT

Sheriff Arrests Suspects at Clatskanie

The new depot at Deer Island was broken into last Tuesday at noon but nothing was secured by the robbers as the station agent returned unexpectedly and the robbers took flight. It appears that two men got off the train at Deer Island on Tuesday morning and stood around the depot platform until nearly noon when one of them asked the agent if he locked up while he was gone to lunch. Receiving an answer in the negative, that the reception room was left unlocked, one of the men volunteered to accompany the agent to his lunch and the other one said that he would stay around till they returned as he did not want anything to eat at that time. However when the agent was ready to go they had evidently fixed matters up so that both men went with him. At the hotel these two men ate their lunch and departed some fifteen or twenty minutes before the agent had finished his meal. When the agent started back to the depot the men were not in sight, but when he got close to the building the two started down the track in a run as if trying to hail a farmer who was unloading something from his wagon down the track. The agent did not immediately go inside the depot and the men got on the farmer's wagon and were going down the road toward Tide Creek when, on entering the waiting room the agent found that the window between the waiting room and the office had been broken. Going inside he found the till had been pried but not opened. He immediately gave notice to the officers and Sheriff Thompson took the trail.

He traced them to Clatskanie and found their luggage in the depot at that place and waiting

until near train time readily recognized them from the description already given him. Placing them both under arrest he brought them to St. Helens where they are now in jail. When they were arrested they were very indignant and called the Sheriff everything they could think of besides a gentlemen, but the Sheriff was not moved by their entreaties nor threats and they are now in durance vile.

On the way to St. Helens, on the train, Sheriff Thompson talked some with them when one of them spoke up and said that they had left Deer Island on the passenger train and made some few other remarks that were not true when the other man, realizing that they were being caught, slapped the first one on the knee and said "You keep still; if there is to be any talking here I will do it". They gave their names as Alex McDonald and William McDonald, claiming to be brothers and that they were representing their father who runs a store at Tacoma. They were peddling dress patterns and suits and were selling them for anything their customers would pay, telling people that the goods had been smuggled into the country and then sold to them for a small sum, thereby permitting them to sell for much less than the true value. It is quite evident, from the prices they were selling for that the goods were either stolen or smuggled and thorough investigation is being made as to these facts. One of the men had \$114 in his pocket and the other had \$133 when arrested. They are held in the jail at this place with a charge of Peddling without a license filed against them for the present.

IMPOSTER ABROAD

A stranger representing himself to be a repairer of sewing machines is around the country bilking the people, if his actions at Houlton can be taken as a criterion. On Thursday of this week, this stranger approached the house of Mrs. Cole in Houlton and asked if she had a sewing machine that needed repairs and on being informed that she had, he enquired as to the make of the machine and upon being told the name he told her that he was representing that particular company and that if her machine was out of repair he would fix it for her free of cost. Of course she permitted him to do the work on those conditions and when it was done, or when he said it was repaired, he demanded \$10 from her for the work. She refused to pay the amount when he used threats and to such force that it had the desired effect. After he was gone she tried to get assistance and recover the money but the slick gentleman was nowhere to be found. Mrs. Cole was alone at the time and of course was somewhat frightened and the house being about a half a mile from town, she was powerless to do anything else. It would be well for people to be on the look out for this imposter.

St. Helens City Hall

The City Hall at St. Helens, completed just a year ago at a cost of \$8000. Contains Council chamber, Private room for Water Commissioners, Fire Department, Commercial Club rooms, Work room for water works, Public Hall and opera house with stage and scenery and an office and store room now occupied by the Oregon Mist. The building is a credit to the city as well as a paying investment.

Red Cross Stamps

Dr. L. G. Ross has received several hundred Red Cross stamps to be sold for the benefit of the State Tuberculosis patients. These stamps have been distributed among the different stores of the City and are for sale at 1 cent each.

Mr. C. P. Baudin, representing the Sanborn Map Company of San Francisco, Cal., was surveying the City during the week. His Company will make a complete map of this city, and other cities, which is used by Fire Insurance Companies in writing their business. Mr. Baudin was much impressed with our water system and fire fighting apparatus and we will probably get fire insurance at reduced rates after his map is made.

The Ladies Tuesday Evening Five Hundred Club met at the home of Mrs. A. J. Deming last Tuesday night and had a turn at the popular game with the result that Mrs. J. George carried off first honors. Mrs. Deming proved to be a delightful hostess and served luncheon, for the ladies as she supposed, but just at the proper moment several of the husbands appeared on the scene and enjoyed the fine lunch.

Mrs. Alfred John Peel will receive on Monday, November 27th at her residence St. Helens and Oak Street.

Mrs. Fanny Edwards of Sheridan, Ore., was visiting at the home of Charles Scott during the week.

City Marshal Wilkins returned home Tuesday after spending a week on Grays Harbor looking after business interests.

MESHER GETS 90 DAYS

Police Judge J. B. E. Bourne of Rainier, tried a case on Tuesday of this week where Clemens Mescher, an old resident of that city was charged with assault and battery upon different members of his family, particularly his son. It was charged that he came home intoxicated and undertook to chastise the whole family when his son took courage and tried to defend himself and the old man charged upon him with a lantern, striking him on the head and inflicting quite a wound. After hearing all the evidence in case, Judge Bourne sentenced the man to 90 days in the county jail and he was brought to St. Helens Wednesday and is now serving out his sentence. Mescher is about 60 years old.

Congressional Timber

The time is approaching for another primary election, and candidates for the larger offices are already springing up quite numerous. Columbia County, under the new apportionment, is in the First Congressional District and we hear of several men who are willing to serve the people of the district in Congress, prominently among whom are the following: W. C. Hawley, present incumbent; A. W. Norblad, a prominent attorney of Astoria; W. W. Williams, an Insurance man of Forest Grove; C. L. McNary, of Salem and Ex-Mayor Rodgers of Salem. It is reasonably certain that there will be others as nearly all the men so far mentioned are from that portion of the District North of Salem, and there are doubtless some good material for this office in the Southern part of the State who will soon make their announcements.

COUNCIL MEETING

Council met in regular session last Monday night and transacted the following business;

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Insurance policy of \$2000 on City Hall received and the premium of \$90.00 ordered paid.

Michael Pierter requested permission to open the street between the Dr. Edwin Ross property and the River; if so permitted he would build the road at his own expense. The street Committee was instructed to investigate the matter.

Application from Rev. A. A. Hiest pastor of the M. E. Church, to rent the Commercial Club room in the city hall for use as Sunday School room and on motion the same was allowed at a monthly rental of \$1.50 per month. Council adjourned.

Mrs. D. W. Richardson, who recently returned from the hospital at Portland, is quite bad off again, but latest reports are that she is slightly improved, and her condition is not now regarded as serious.

GOVERNOR OLCOTT

For the next month Secretary of State, Ben W. Olcott, will be the governor of Oregon. Governor West will leave Monday for a trip on the "Governor's Special" which will visit all over the East before returning, and during his absence Mr. Olcott will have the job of governing the people of Oregon.

White & White the popular merchants of Houlton have a fine delivery team but they will not stand and allow blasting near them without a driver. As a result the team took a little run on Thursday and wound up in a ditch with a broken delivery wagon and harness.

HANGING ABOLISHED

Governor West Defines Policy on Capital Punishment

HASSING'S SENTENCE COMMUTED

No More Hanging in Oregon While West is Governor

Governor West has abolished Capital Punishment in Oregon for at least three years. Jans M. William Hassing, convicted of murder in the first degree for killing his wife in Portland, was under sentence of death, but before the Governor left Salem Thursday he commuted the death sentence to one of life imprisonment. In commuting the sentence the Governor said;

"Whereas, it has been shown by numerous presentations from C. Moltke, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Denmark, and by P. C. Knox, Secretary of State, and otherwise that the family history of the said Jans M. William Hassing shows that the majority of his immediate ancestors have been afflicted with insanity, thus raising the presumption of recurrent attacks of mental irresponsibility in the case of him, the said Jans M. William Hassing; and

"Whereas, capital punishment is, in my opinion, a relic of the barbarous and mediaeval ages of man and not in consonance or in keeping with the enlightened spirit of the civilization of this, the 20th century, and is not, in my opinion, as great a deterrent of crime as imprisonment for life;

"Now, therefore, I, Oswald West, by virtue of authority in me vested as Governor of the State of Oregon, do hereby commute the sentence of the said Jans M. William Hassing to that of imprisonment in the Oregon State Penitentiary for the term of his natural life."

As in the case of Jesse Webb,

Hassing was required to sign a statement that he would not ask for a pardon in his term of prison and that he would not ask for executive clemency or favor in any form and that he would not ask his friends to intercede in his behalf. His sister also signed the statement.

In his formal statement today the Governor says:

"There will be no hanging in Oregon while I am Governor of the State. The old rule that bloodshed must be expiated by the shedding of blood is, in my opinion a relic of barbarism and not in consonance or in keeping with the civilization or in the spirit of the 20th century. It is an antiquate and an uneconomic remainder from the dark ages.

"I contend that the spirit and the civilization of this age call for the repeal of capital statutes as the punishment for first degree murder. I believe that imprisonment for life should be the penalty paid for shedding human blood.

I recommended abolition of capital punishment to the last Legislature. I will again make the same recommendation in 1913 unless the law has been previously amended at the general election of 1912.

"I will, and do advocate the repeal of the capital statute and the limitation of the pardoning power of the Governor in relation to life sentences for first degree murder. I hope to see this reform accomplished before the expiration of my term of office and the present barbaric law wiped from the statute books of this state."

The Backward Social at Houlton

The Backward Social given by the Ladies Aid Society of Houlton Wednesday night at I. O. O. F. Hall was a very unique and enjoyable affair. The manner in which it was conducted shows that the ladies are quite resourceful. On arriving the guests were bidden good bye, with expressions of sorrow for having to go so soon and hoping they never call again. Old fashioned games were played causing much amusement. Prof. E. S. Faxon and T. S. White selected sides in an apple passing contest and after the Prof. and his side were hopelessly defeated they avenged themselves on their opponents by playing an Uncle Bob trick in which Mr. White was the goat. To sing a song backward seems very difficult until you know how. All you have to do is to turn your back to the audience while singing. A quartet composed of Rev. and Mrs. Dark, Miss Janie Reid and Prof. Faxon rendered one very feelingly in this manner, after which, the toothpicks were passed, much to the surprise of everyone. The backwardness of things was remembered, it proved to be the rear end of a very dainty luncheon for which the ladies are noted. About twenty ladies and gentlemen from St. Helens were in attendance lending much to the pleasure of the occasion. The last report showed that everyone got home successfully with the

exception of those who had their clothes on backwards. Prof Faxon was seen to cross Milton Creek three times before finding his own domicile.

Virgil Noland, an athlete at the U. of O. was burned to death Wednesday in an electric bath robe.

L. C. Hartman, the well known Portland detective, was in the city during the week.

The Oregon Mist is 30 years old this week.

Boys' Conference

After having made a round-up of the towns from Portland to Roseburg, visiting Sunday School classes and all agencies interested in boys work, Mr. Dalzell, the State Boys Secretary, feels confident there will be the largest and most enthusiastic Boys Conference this year that has ever been held in the Northwest. He estimates there will be at least 150 of the older boys in attendance.

A round trip fare of a fare and a third has been secured on the Southern Pacific and Corvallis & Eastern on the certificate plan. All delegates should pay full fare going and ask for a certificate of receipt. This, when properly signed by the Secretary of the Conference, will entitle them to a third return fare.

Mr. Dalzell will be very glad to answer any inquiries relative to the Conference.

FOR SALE—Confectionery and cigar store, with rooming house above, all furnished. Will sell for half value. Call at the HALF WAY HOUSE, Between St. Helens and Houlton.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

The following real estate transfers have been recorded in the office of the County Clerk during the past week;

M G & M E Spafford to F Mc Intosh, land in Sec 21 T 7 R 2.

A W & B L Lambert to W G & S Clayes, Scappoose Orchard Tract, G W & K A Perry to W A McIntyre, land in Sec 5, T 4 R 1.

W Spencer to C E Marrs, land in Sec 26 T 6 R 5.

C E Marrs to F M Marrs, land in Sec 26 T 6 R 5.

S Neuman et ux to Blatsford & Holaday, land.

F S Cooper to J & A Erickson, land in Sec 24, T 4 R 2.

P & J Kelley to E Matsen.

P & J Kelley to A Carlson.

E B McFarland et ux to Fred Finn.

D H Stehman et ux to L Butts.

D H Stehman to Lillie Stehman.

M J Watts to Mrs A Uhlman.

Cora Maecon to H & O Bennett, Part of Broyles D L C.

L J Wheeler to H & O Bennett.

Jas. Spence et ux to John Ulman, land in Sec 4 T 4 R 1.

There will be an old fashioned basket social at Bachelor Flat school house, November 25th, at 8 o'clock P. M. Good program assured. All are invited.

REEVES PHOTO STUDIO
A Photo studio will be opened here about October 8th in the Dr. Montgomery Building on Willamette Street, where first class photo work of all kinds can be had at reasonable prices. We kindly request the people of St. Helens and Houlton to give us a trial.
Open Sundays 9:30 a. m. to 4:30 p. m.
C. S. Reeves.

Two fresh milch cows for sale. Inquiries of Frank Gliniecki, St. Helens, Ore.

REMOVAL NOTICE

We have moved our transfer business to our new barn just across from the school house where we will be glad to have you call on us when you wish a nice driving rig, transfer or drayage work. We carry in stock, brick, cement, sand shingles and feed and will be glad to fill your orders promptly. Phone 15 or leave orders at Fred Watkins and your work will be promptly attended to.
St. Helens Transfer Company.

FOR SALE—Stock farm, 100 acres, with stock and farm implements. Enquire at this office.

Partner wanted for dairy and stock business with \$1000 to \$3000 capital. Fine opportunity, for particulars enquire at this office, liberal terms. 2t