

Recommendations Are Made By Retiring Commissioners

Eight Items Included in Form Passed at Meeting of City Dads Wednesday Evening; Many Problems Mentioned.

The following recommendations were adopted at the regular commission meeting Wednesday night:

We, the undersigned, retiring commissioners and manager of the City of La Grande, realizing that the work of the past two years has brought out several vital points which should have attention in the coming year, desire to call the attention of the commissioners to the following deficiencies and respectfully recommend that as soon as circumstances permit they be given consideration:

Item One.—The requirements of the fire department require a more efficient fire fighting equipment, either in a water pump or a new chemical truck and pumper. Supplementing this, and for use in other emergencies, a pumping station should be installed at the present location near the river, capable of being utilized at a moment's notice, with the installation of electric installation. The present steam plant while kept in readiness at all times for pumping purposes, requires some little time to be brought up to its maximum capacity and its total efficiency is then inadequate.

Item Two.—The past year has also demonstrated the need of greater chlorine control when pumping is required and water is low in the storage reservoir.

Item Three.—The city has been advised by the state health department that the septic tank is inadequate, the growth of the city having gone beyond the capacity of the septic tank to care for sewerage. Correction of this matter should be made as early as possible in the spring.

Item Four.—Considerable confusion has arisen at different times from the fact that no place is provided either by the city or county to take care of those persons afflicted with contagious diseases. In the budget for the expenditures of 1925 will be found an allowance for the construction of such a building, and we understand the county is also prepared to place an additional amount with these funds to purchase property and construct a good building with sufficient room to house several patients with the respective diseases. In the meantime that certain property known as the Dr. Holt house near the hospital is rented from Dr. Holt to be used for such an emergency.

Item Five.—The growth of the city apparently demands a separation of the water and sewer department, they being now maintained under one head. The appointment of a water superintendent to take care of the water and sewer department, and a street superintendent to look after the street is recommended.

Item Six.—No provision has ever been made in the past for the setting aside of any of the profits of the water department to be used solely for water purposes. All excess water receipts now go into the general fund and are used without discrimination for any need which may arise. We would recommend that at least 5 per cent of the gross receipts annually be set aside for investment purposes for a definite period of say twenty years, and not to be withdrawn from the fund until this century has been reached. In other words, a city should apply the same principle which brings success to an individual in that it should save a share of its profits each year. Once established and in working order this fund will be far towards taking care of a large amount of the city's expenses from the income alone. The plan is in operation in a few places, and a study of the results is certainly convincing that it is both practical and valuable.

In addition to this we believe that five thousand dollars per annum from the gross water receipts should be used for water expenditures not a part of the ordinary expenses or overhead. The amount to be expended for replacement or expenses and improvements of the present or future water system. By so doing it will be found that when an emergency arises which requires a considerable sum to pay for a needed change or repair, that this accumulation will provide the means to accomplish the purpose desired, without an election for bonding the city or an unusual retrenchment along other lines in order to care for the work from the budget funds.

If it is not possible to create these funds by ordinance then we would recommend that the question be submitted to the voters at any special or general election in the city under a charter amendment provision.

Item Seven.—There is an ordinance in effect regulating the class of construction of all buildings within the fire limits. This prohibits the construction of corrugated iron buildings from any building of corrugated iron, but we feel that the limits of this construction are not rightly expressed and believe this ordinance should be changed at any convenient time to provide for the removal of the present highly inflammable woodsheds and buildings of the nature which prevail along the alley in the fire limits, and a replacement thereof with well constructed corrugated iron buildings.

This ordinance should provide a limitation of the size and height of such woodsheds as well as limit their proximity to other buildings. A prohibitive clause should be included, providing that

these corrugated iron buildings should not join any other building and should provide for the space which shall exist between buildings.

Item Eight.—We would further recommend that improvements in the water system in the City of La Grande should not be along experimental lines, and that future improvements, when made, should include a consideration of the establishment of a higher reservoir, with the main canal or feeder from the reservoir to the city, some where of sufficient height along the base of the hills to the west of the city to provide a supply of water for the heights along the main highway and installed in such a manner as to eliminate the possibility of it ever being covered by paying as in the present condition of the water condition now supplying the city.

We desire to make these recommendations a part of the minutes of December 21st, 1924.

(Signed)

H. S. EDWARDS, C. J. BLACK, SHERWOOD WILLIAMS, F. B. HAYES, Commissioners, Manager.

OFFICIALS TO TAKE OFFICE

Wallowa County to See Many Changes Made in Courthouse Personnel Monday.

INTERPRISE, Ore. (Special to the Observer)—New officers take up their duties next Monday at the courthouse. The changes are more numerous than at any time for many years. In fact, only one official survived a contest for his position: that was J. C. Conley, superintendent of schools.

The common impression has been that the new officers assume their duties the first of the year, but the constitution of the state provides that the change shall be made the first Monday in January after New Year's. So the old officials will continue in authority the remainder of this week.

The new court house family will comprise the following:

Judge, L. E. Jordan, elected for four years, succeeding Edgar Marvin.

Commissioner, Carl Whitmore, to serve four years, succeeding F. D. McCully.

Sheriff, A. B. Miller, to serve four years, succeeding E. D. Blinhardt. W. H. Spence will be office

deputy, in charge of tax collection and accounts.

Clerk, D. B. Reavis, to serve four years, succeeding J. P. Tobin. The office deputy will be Orval Millard, who now occupies that position.

Assessor, J. Harley Horner, to serve four years, succeeding John McDonald. Office deputy, who makes up the tax roll and does much other bookkeeping work will be George E. Richards, now deputy sheriff.

Treasurer, Mrs. Ella T. Clayton to serve four years, succeeding her self, without opposition.

School superintendent, J. C. Conley, to serve four years, succeeding himself.

County surveyor, Lewis A. Shanley, to serve four years, succeeding H. N. Kollong. The latter remains county engineer in charge of highway construction.

Coroner, Clarence L. Booth, to serve four years, succeeding Blinhardt, without opposition. This is a fee office with very little competition.

The new court consists of Judge Jordan and Commissioners Whitmore and Giles Plank, the last holding office for two years more. It will hold its first meeting next Wednesday, according to law, and will have a long session for much business for the year will be laid out then.

In the offices, the changes will be made without and jar, for experienced men will be found in each. Sheriff Miller is somewhat new to his position, but will have the assistance of Mr. Spence who has had several years of acquaintance with records and is an expert accountant. Assessor Horner has

been a deputy in that office for several years and knows it by heart and he will have the assistance of Mr. Richards who has been working with the records for a long time and is a trained bookkeeper. Clerk Reavis has been in the court house four years as deputy assessor and his deputy, Mr. Millard, already holds that position and so is thoroughly familiar with its duties.

New City Officials.

The city council meets the first Monday each month, and so next Monday night will be the time for Mayor Fred H. Cole to assume office, succeeding B. W. Hamilton. One new council member will be on the board, H. L. Forsythe, succeeding C. A. Itley, who was not a candidate for re-election to succeed himself. The other members of the council are Sam Litch, M. E. Ward and L. Berland.

No change was made in other city officers, who are: E. W. Steel, geodesic; W. H. Spence, treasurer; and R. H. Burleigh, attorney, state

HAROLD LLOYD
—In—
"HOT WATER"
Starts Monday,
ARCADE

DO YOU REALIZE THAT:

- of every 100 people in America, 32 die penniless?
- 46 of every 100 average American men have saved nothing at 45 years of age?
- one person out of every ten who die today in our large cities is buried in a Potter's Field?

Providing for the future has been one of the necessities of man since time began. It is something none of us should ignore or postpone.

Save all you can NOW before your earning capacity is gone. Cultivate the habit of systematic saving. Make savings deposits regularly—no matter how small.

We Pay 4% Interest
U. S. Nat. Bank
Member Federal Reserve System
"The Bank That Takes Care of Your Interests"

If he advertises it, he knows it's good!

CROUP
Spasmodic Croup is frequently relieved by one application of—
VICKS VAPORUB
Over 17 Million Jars Used Yearly

Now we know why bathing girls left the swimming covers. They have better jobs on the 1925 collanders.

Oil Heaters

We Have on Hand a Few PERFECTION Oil Heaters Which Will Be Sold at the Following Reduced Prices:

No. 510—Regular Price \$4.50	Now \$3.85
No. 520—Regular Price \$9.50	Now \$8.10
No. 550—Regular Price \$9.50	Now \$8.10
No. 560—Regular Price \$11.00	Now \$9.25
No. 760—Regular Price \$15.00	Now \$12.25

These prices apply only to stoves which are in stock at this time.

Oregon Hardware & Imp. Co.

COMMUNISTS IN FAR EAST FOLLOW MOSCOW'S ORDERS

THE HAGUE, Holland (AP)—Communist activities in the Dutch East Indies were indicated in a recent dispatch from Batavia, saying that the governor-general had been in consultation with the council of state of the East Indies to concert measures to deal with Bolshevist agitation.

Colonial newspapers just arrived here threw some further light on the movement of the Sarekat Islam, the East Indian communist organization, which seems to have branches throughout Holland's Indian archipelago.

According to the Batavia Nieuwsblad, these native communists strictly follow the Moscow program. They conduct secret meetings, but seem to have met with but scant success in their higher towns. Their latest plan seems to be to approach the Java-ans individually in the small scattered villages and so make propaganda for communism.

The newspaper notes that the Chinese, who form an important part of the trading population in these islands, are leaving Bolshevist propaganda literature to them.

A fascist movement has also sprung up in Java lately, colonial papers state.

Sales Building Largest Ever

841,331. Ore. Building operations in Salem during the year 1924 aggregated \$1,842,255, an amount \$1,735,732 in 1923, according to the records in the office of the city recorder. The 1924 building program was said to have been the largest in the history of the city.



CLAUDE C. PRATT

"I saw your picture in the paper yesterday."

"I get some kick out of that, eh?"

"Is there no way to keep that man Pratt's ads. out of the paper?"

"There's that picture again."

"He always has something to say."

"I bet more people read that ad. than any ad. in the paper."

"That man Pratt tickles me."

These are but a few of the remarks that our good friends have made and a little loud whistled them in our ear.

We have some wonderful bargains for the new year.

Nails, \$1.98 case, in keg box.

The Claude C. Pratt Lumber Co.
"The Post Man's Friend"
Opp. Emery. Phone 244 W.
No Sunday Business



Hills Bros Coffee—the pride of the West

WHAT a treat to the senses awaits the visitor to this great empire of the West—the sight of our scenic glories; the touch of a western handshake; the taste of our marvelous western coffee, and, yes, even hearing what the West thinks of Hills Bros.

No wonder this great country is known as the home of wonderful coffee. It is! Break the vacuum seal of a tin of Hills Bros. Coffee and inhale that rare aroma. Brew a cup and lift it to your lips! In all the world, no coffee like this!

Because—there is no finer coffee to be had. It is the cream of the crop—not of one plantation, but of the plantations of the entire coffee-producing world. Blended with rare skill, roasted to a turn, ground with special machinery and packed in a special way. In all truth, The Recognized Standard. Hills Bros. Coffee is economical to use.



In the original Vacuum Pack which keeps the coffee fresh

HILLS BROS COFFEE



Let Your Telephone Help You

do your shopping. It is economically and promptly done. Telephone buying has become a pleasant habit with thousands of people.

Home Independent Telephone Co.

Blue Mountain Oregon LUMBER

KEEP YOUR NEW YEAR RESOLUTION BUILD NOW

Bowman-Hicks Lumber Company

MAIN 8
CHAIN AND BOX WOOD
PHONE MAIN 547
J. L. MUNHALL

Seventh Message—

Why buy an open or semi-open car—Why not a HUDSON or an ESSEX COACH?

Ledbetter Garage

1406 Adams Avenue

Servicing Batteries

We Specialize in Battery Recharging, Repairing and prolonging the service your battery was intended to give regardless of the size or make. Our prices and service must satisfy.

8-HOUR RECHARGE SERVICE EXTIDE Distributor

FRED T. BURGESS

MAIN 125 1208 Jefferson Ave

NEW YEAR

PLUM PUDDING - FRUIT CAKE - CHERRY CAKE

Real English Plum Pudding and Fruit Cake
This is not a bread pudding and the quality cannot be equalled.

Have your Xmas cakes and fancies made by experienced bakers and pastry cooks. Let us decorate your cakes, no matter what design, we can make it, and no matter how small your order we appreciate it, and give you the best obtainable. Come in and tell us what you want.

PLUM PUDDING	BUTTER HORNS
FRUIT CAKE	MAPLE ROLLS
CHERRY CAKE	PATTY SHELS
FRENCH PASTRY	MERINGUES
EGGLES CAKES	SCOTCH SHORTBREAD
CHERRY DESSERTS	PIES—ALL KINDS

All our fancy cakes are made from sweet dairy butter and baked by Electricity—"The Sanitary way." Ask your Grocer, Made by "The Home of the Golden Crust Bread."

Gwilliams' Electric Bakery