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Mondays and Thursdays

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ANNEXATION PRO AND CON.

In another column appears a letter from Albert C. Woodard giving reasons which to him seem sufficient why property owners outside the city might be excused for not wishing to come into the city.

As Mr. Woodard is a taxpayer both inside and outside the city, it is appropriate that he should discuss the merits and demerits of annexation. As a taxpayer inside the city, he stood to gain little or nothing in reduction of taxes, so there is no reason why, from this position, he should argue for bringing in his outside property.

Of course, Mr. Woodard is right when he contends that those who find it necessary to live where it is not necessary to pay for city conveniences should not have such conveniences forced upon them. He is also correct in his statement that there is yet plenty of vacant building property within the city. However, it is the case in all cities that outlying territory builds up and is absorbed by the city while property within the city remains vacant, and it ever will be thus. If cities wait until property within their limits is fully occupied, the boundaries of such cities will never be extended.

There is no reason for Mr. Woodard to be in doubt as to what the saving in water and insurance rates would be, and there is no difficulty in comparing the saving with the amount to be added by city taxes in the event of annexation.

The amount of tax money to be raised for the expenses of the city during 1926 is \$23,529. The assessed valuation of the property which is to pay this is \$1,026,682. By a simple problem in arithmetic it is shown that the levy will be not over 2 1/4 mills, or the equivalent of \$23.50 on each \$1000 of assessed valuation. The city council has advanced its rates for water delivered outside the city to double

the rates inside the city. The average domestic rate inside the city is \$1.75 the month, to which is usually added \$3.75 for irrigation. This is a total of \$24.75 the year. For the same service property outside the city will hereafter pay double this rate, or \$24.75 the year more than is paid by property inside the city. This is more than the city tax on an assessed valuation of \$1000. The average valuation for property outside the city probably is less than \$1000, so that the average saving in water rent to the occupant of property who comes into the city will be more than the increase in taxation.

Added to the saving in water rent is the saving in insurance rates. Inside the city the basic rate is 50 cents the hundred for one year, or \$1 the hundred dollars for three years. Outside the city the rate is double this rate. Thus there would be a saving of \$3.33 the year on every \$1000 of insurance on residence property.

Paved streets, cement curbs and cement walks, referred to by Mr. Woodard, are matters within the control of the property owners who would be affected. Sewers and board sidewalks could be ordered by the city, except that cement walks would be ordered wherever the property owners had built a hard surfaced street.

The city fathers beat Mr. Woodard to his suggestion that it would appear to be spite work to cut water service to those outside the city and have decided, temporarily at least, that service will be continued to those now receiving it, the rate to be double that paid in the city, meters to be installed before May 1.

There are two things which the city is giving without cost to those living outside the city limits. These are fire protection and police protection. Of course the city police officers act as county officers when going outside the city, but unless they were supported by city salaries they would not be on the job to act as county officers.

In many cities the city fire department will not go outside the city limits. In Cottage Grove the local department, not a cent of the expense of which is borne by property outside the city, has frequently rendered assistance to property a distance from the city limits. It probably will continue to do so.

As an example to bring home the point we are trying to make: Houses on the east side of Fourth street might catch fire. The fire department would do its best to control the blaze, but the flames might cross to the west side of the street, which is outside the city. The fire department would be obligated in no way to even attempt to control such flames and thousands of dollars in property might go up in smoke without a stream of water being thrown to attempt to save it.

The fire department may at any time save to any property owner many times the total amount of taxes paid by such property owner for the support of the city government. The city can at any time withdraw fire protection from property outside the city. It is not likely that this will be done, but neither is it likely that the city is going to any great expense to extend to property outside the city water mains sufficient for fire protection and provide hydrants conveniently located for such fire protection. The city need advance no other reason why those outside the city should hasten to put inside the city property liable to destruction by flames.

WHY ANNEXATION MIGHT NOT BE GOOD THING.

Cottage Grove, Jan. 5.—(To the Editor.)—In last week's Sentinel I read with considerable interest an article by the annexation committee putting forth reasons why the property owners ought to, and why it would be advantageous to them, to be annexed to the city.

After careful consideration of their proposition, I wish to put forth reasons which seem to me equally good, if not better, why the territory in question should not be annexed.

(1) That natural pride in one's city may be quite easily balanced by the pride of keeping expenses down for those who by reason of misfortune and lower wage income can not see their way clear to have paved streets, cement curbs and sidewalks, sewers and a host of other things which are splendid but expensive luxuries.

(2) They wish electric lights because of more convenience and lower cost than oil lamps and for this service they pay a fair price.

(3) They are now paying for all the school privileges they enjoy, and are part of the school district.

(4) They are now paying ample for city water, receiving no special favor from the city in this regard, and in this connection, Mr. Editor, if the city fathers cut us off, they would be displaying what would seem to be spite in contradiction to the spirit they wish displayed in return. Again may I not mention that when once installed at an expense of two or three hundred dollars a drilled well, assisted by an automatic electric pump, would furnish more water equally good and for half the price of city water. The city, from a business viewpoint, must make a profit of at least 50% from outside users.

(5) I am not fully convinced that the saving in insurance and water charges would offset the city tax levy, nor do I believe that for the average resident of this territory they would amount to half the increase of taxes.

Finally, let me draw to your attention the fact that there is now within the city limits of Cottage Grove enough vacant property to easily accommodate a population of 10,000 to 12,000 without overcrowding and that this property is obtainable at a reasonable price, so that any who wish the added advantages of being within the city lack no opportunity.

Personally I am a property owner both inside and outside the city and have paid city taxes cheerfully for 15 years.

ALBERT C. WOODARD.

Red Rain Mystery

(Continued from first page.)

Folding her mittened hands, she proceeded:

"I am a very old woman, and though it is so long ago I was quite elderly when the young couple came to reside at Baralong cottage. I always like to be neighborly, and I went across and called on them. They were both at home, and I quickly formed the opinion that Mr. Holloway was better born than his wife. In fact I had not known them many weeks when Mrs. Holloway told me so, and that they had made a runaway match of it to avoid offending her husband's family.

"That, I suppose, accounted for Mr. Holloway's long absence from home, frequently as much as a fortnight at a time, spent no doubt under his father's roof. In due course a boy was born, after which the young husband made longer stays, being from my observation much attached to the infant. But a great sorrow was in store for him, for the boy died when he was between three and four years old.

"The poor mother was broken-hearted, her one solace being, as she often told me, her husband's sympathy and kindness. Then trouble of another kind swooped upon them, though they were very reticent about it, and I never really learned the rights of the matter. A man called at the cottage one day and there was a dreadful quarrel. He remained inside half an hour, and when he came out he was cursing and shaking his fist at Mr. and Mrs. Holloway who had followed him to the door.

"What age was he?" Klyne interrupted the narrative.

"He wasn't old," replied the spinster primly. "I am no judge of men's ages, but he might well have been Mrs. Holloway's father. That is what I took him to be. I guessed that he had only just discovered their retreat and had been giving them a bit of his mind. Well, whether it was cause and effect I can not say, but Mrs. Holloway died a month after that visit. Mr. Holloway at once sold the house, and I have never seen him since."

"Can you tell me who bought the cottage?" Klyne inquired.

"The purchaser was a city man of the name of Jessick—member of a firm called Jessick & Co., wholesale haberdashers," the aged spinster replied, with evident pride in her knowledge. "He bought the house as an investment and not for residence. He owns it still, I

Society

Miss Lois Compton, bride elect, was honor guest Wednesday evening when Mrs. Herbert Eakin, Mrs. Orpha Benson, Mrs. J. H. Chambers, Mrs. H. A. Miller, Mrs. B. R. Job and Mrs. H. H. Veatch entertained about 40 of her friends at the home of Mrs. Eakin. Games and contests pertaining to courtship and marriage formed the evening's entertainment. One feature was the grouping of all married guests according to their wedding month. Each then related the reason for her selection of that particular month. June proved the most popular. Miss Mary Ellen Benson gave several vocal selections and a radio concert was enjoyed. Each guest took a recipe and Miss Compton was presented with a book containing this collection. Dainty refreshments were served.

The Elmartes club met Wednesday afternoon at the Victor Kem home with Mrs. H. F. Edwards as hostess. The election of officers was held and Mrs. Fred Anderson will be president for the coming year, with Mrs. Earl Garoutte as vice president and Mrs. Charles Hall secretary-treasurer. Following the business and social session the hostess served a dainty two-course luncheon. The club will observe its birthday anniversary January 14, when members will entertain their husbands at a dinner party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Kem.

The women's foreign missionary society of the Methodist church held special devotions Wednesday in behalf of the coming evangelistic revival at the church. The meeting was held at the home of Mrs. C. E. Umphrey and Mrs. Mrs. John Linn was the leader. The study program on "Prayer and Service" was in charge of Mrs. R. L. Cooper; the mystery box was conducted by Mrs. Harry Hart. Tea was served following the lesson hour, the hostess being assisted by Mrs. S. L. Mackin.

Mrs. C. C. Cruson entertained the M. P. G. club Tuesday afternoon, inviting Mrs. W. E. Lebow, Mrs. Bert Trask, Mrs. Frank Dickson and Mrs. Nelson Durham to meet with them. The afternoon was pleasantly spent chatting over needle work. A two-course luncheon was served; the table centerpiece was a bowl of pale tinted sweet peas. Graceful ferns added to the attractive living room. The hostess presented each guest with a pretty potted plant.

The Tanglefoot club held its regular dance Tuesday evening in Phillips hall. The main decorations were floor lamps made into huge roses. The committee was Mrs. P. P. Beaulieu, Mrs. Helliwell, Mrs. Earl Garoutte, Mrs. Victor Chambers, Mrs. Joe Smith and Mrs. C. C. Cruson. Punch was served during the evening.

A family reunion was held Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Perini at Anlauf. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Elliott, Earl and Noble Elliott, Mrs. Kenneth Tait and baby, Mr. and Mrs. N. E. Elliot and baby, W. A. Ward, Mrs. Gertrude Whitsett and son Wesley and daughter Bernice.

The Tillicum club was entertained Wednesday by Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Kurre. Special guests were Mrs. H. W. Titus, Mr. and Mrs. S. V. Allison, Mr. and Mrs. William Thum and Mr. and Mrs. W. J. White. Five hundred furnished

believe, and my acquaintance with every successive tenant has informed me that Mr. Jessick is not a good landlord. The tenants have great difficulty in getting him to do any repairs."

"During his occupation Mr. Holloway owned the house, and after his wife's death sold it to Mr. Jessick?"

"That is what I have been endeavoring to convey to you, sir." (To be continued.)

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the entertainment, after which a two-course supper was served. Red chrysanthemums were effective as decorations.

The Research club will have as its topic at its meeting January 26, to be held at the home of Mrs. Van Osdel, the life of Frank Norris and a study of his book, "The Pit." The leader will be Mrs. F. E. Mondenhall. There will be a brief review of the book, with discussion. The club has a new member, Mrs. D. P. Cameron, who is taking the place of Mrs. Ralph Spearow, who is to leave for Portland soon.

The ladies' aid of the Baptist church held its social meeting Wednesday at the home of Mrs. J. C. Orr. Money for the group was raised by Mrs. McGinnis giving each guest a shoe shine for 10 cents. Refreshments consisted of ice cream and cookies. Sixteen were present.

Row River Gets Coyote Work. Elmer Williams, in charge of predatory animal control work, will go to Dorena Friday to assist the farmers of that section in setting out poison for coyotes. The farmers there have set out bait to learn where the animals feed and poison baits will be placed in those locations.

Establishes Branch Print Shop. The Valley Printing company of Eugene is establishing a branch printing office here. It recently installed a modern plant in Eugene and is moving the used equipment here.

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WEEKLY PROGRAM
Thursday, January 7
Jack Hoxie in
"BUSTIN' THROUGH."
Comedy and International News.
Friday, January 8
"LORD JIM"
with Percy Marmont, Shirley Mason, Noah Beery and Raymond Hatton.
The most thrilling sea tale ever.
And a comedy.
Saturday, January 9
Fred Thompson and his wonderful horse Silver King in
"RIDIN' THE WIND."
Full of surprises, full of thrills and faster than a simoon hurtling across the desert.
And a comedy.
Sun. Mon., January 10-11
Raymond Griffith and Mary Brian in
"HE'S A PRINCE."
Never a comedy so lavish, languish, clever and colorful.
And a comedy.
Tuesday, January 12
"SPORTING LIFE,"
with Marion Nixon and Bert Lytell,
a picture for all humans who like horses, musical shows, gay parties, tennis, coaching or lovmaking.
And a comedy.
Wednesday, January 13
"FINE CLOTHES,"
with Stone, Marmont and Alma Rubens.
A chapter from the life of a poor girl who craves luxuries more than love.
And a comedy.
Thursday, January 14
A Blue Streak Western
"DARING DAYS,"
featuring Josie Sedgwick, the riding Queen of the West.
Comedy and International News.

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