

Mt. Scott Herald

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ANOTHER DRIVE.

The week beginning May 20 has been set aside as a week to be devoted to the interests of the Red Cross, and an endeavor will be made, which of course here in Oregon at least will be successful, to raise another million dollars. The attention of our readers is respectfully called to this effort, and their loyal co-operation is demanded in the name of humanity.

We do not think there will be much need of urging; our nation is learning to give, and to give willingly, cheerfully and well. With every bulletin from the scene of the conflict in France comes word of casualties among the American troops; our own boys are now suffering, now in need of everything that can be done to save life, heal wounds, and lessen pain. The task of doing this that would be such a privilege to the mothers of America has perforce to be delegated to someone else. This someone else is the American Red Cross, and it goes without saying that every soldier's mother and father, brother and sister will give to the limit, with a glad and thankful heart for the privilege. The whole world, with the exception of a few million suns of Huns, takes off its hat to the Red Cross. Speed the Drive along.

LEFT TO DIE ALONE.

Surely a sad way to die is to be far away from friends and loved ones, with no one to ease the passing moments, or to shed a tear; a still sadder sight is to watch one passing away spurned by those nearest and dearest. Such a death occurred in Lents last Friday evening.

One who had dedicated all to the service of Lents, who had done more of late years than anyone else to speak well of Lents and to watch out for her material interests, one whose one object in life was the up-building of the community, was discovered Friday evening in the last throes of death—unwept, unhonored and unsung.

The Lents Improvement Club was born at an enthusiastic gathering of boosters January 24, 1917; it died May 3, 1918, for lack of sufficient nourishment to enable it to hold up its head any longer. The only one present at the time of demise was the undertaker, A. D. Kenworthy.

During its short life the club has done many kindly and helpful deeds, has attempted many more, and had under way when death laid his untimely hand upon it, great visions for a united community and a prosperous and orderly business and residential district. It is too bad that it never lived to see the completion of its crowning achievement, the paving of Foster Road. This work is now under way, but the Road Master's office commenced at the further end of the project, leaving the Foster Road part of it to the last. It is devoutly to be hoped that it will be completed, however, before the summer dust becomes too thick. The Club has arranged and held many public meetings, not the least successful of which was the mass meeting held the eve of the city election last year, at which practically every candidate was present. The speakers stated that it was the largest and best-arranged meeting of the kind held during the cam-

paign. The banquet, presided over by Judge Worden, and addressed by Frank McCrillis, will live long in the memory of those who like to cherish inspiring thoughts, and the paving of Foster Road was a direct outcome of this meeting. One of its greatest accomplishments has been the awakening of the eyes of the city and county officials to the needs and the enterprise of this community. For the sake of future needs it would be wiser, perhaps, to "tell it not in Gath" that the Club has succumbed so prematurely. Among the efforts that have been made to put the Club on its feet permanently and avoid the distressing happening of last week, were permanent dues, regular meetings, and regular advertising. The dues were soon found to be hopelessly inadequate, and we believe that if they had been originally placed at the figure to which they were later raised, viz., 25c a month instead of 50c a year as at first, the calamity might have been averted. The meetings were never regularly scheduled, so each one had to be called specially; as a consequence the meeting of the Club failed to become a part of the business habits of the community; in any future attempt this step must be seen to at the start. Its regular advertisement on the bottom of the Buy-at-Home page, a streamer going the entire width of the page, at a cost of \$2 a week, has probably done more to attract attention to the Club to both local residents and inner Portland circles than anything else. Although this was authorized to run for a year from July 28, that being the date of the meeting authorizing it, we have discontinued the ad. this week, as the Club has already run up a bill which it has not paid, and we do not see much likelihood of those who are behind on their dues coming forward and paying their debts now.

In conclusion, while many causes undoubtedly contributed to the death of our friend, the Lents Improvement Club, we are constrained to remark that it surely died of a broken heart, owing to the neglect and even opposition of its own members. The chief need of an improvement club is to draw all the interests, especially the business interests of the community, together. Unhappy is that community whose business interests are pulling and hauling, geeing and hawing, faultfinding and bickering, gossiping and slandering, scheming and plotting against one another to such an extent that they do not even have sufficient cohesion to pull together long enough to keep going the very institution that they need to cure them of their ills. Undoubtedly someone will arise who will again attempt the task—another club will be born, and we pledge ourselves, patiently, consistently and forever to stand back of any such movement no matter how many may be born and killed before one finally survives and triumphs. The King is Dead! Long Live the King!

Filling 'Em Up.
One hundred and fifty tons of chocolate, 100 tons of cocoa and 175 tons of condensed milk were purchased by the Y. M. C. A. for American soldiers overseas.

A. A. BAILEY



Republican Candidate for
County Commissioner

"Efficiency and Economy
Through Harmony"
(Paid ad)

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"Did Right Before - Will Do
Right Again"



HERBERT GORDON

Republican Candidate
For State Representative
BALLOT NO. 79

(Paid ad)

GEO. T. WILLETT



Republican Candidate
for
REPRESENTATIVE

Primaries May 17 '18

An effort for a Second term
in the Legislature

Paid Adv.

Let's Get at the Facts

Why a Six-Cent Fare in Portland?

We invite your attention to the following editorial from "AERA," the official publication of the American Electric Railway Association, on this subject:

"The reign of the 5-Cent Fare—that autocrat of the electric railway industry—is passing. Statistics of increased fares granted, of applications for increases pending and other applications contemplated, indicate the undermining of his unbending rule and transition to a rule of reason.

"The war is but hastening the date of his departure—it has not caused it. For a number of years the close observer had little difficulty in forecasting the near arrival of a time when operating economies, the shearing of profits, the improvements in practices and operation would no longer suffice to keep even the slightest of margins between income and outgo, and when the public faced either the marked deterioration of service, no service at all, or an increased fare.

"The time is here. The question that faces the country is not as to the amount of profit that the owners of electric railways shall receive. It is a question as to the amount of service that the public shall receive, or in some instances, as evidenced by those not few roads which have gone into the junk pile, as to whether it—the public—shall receive any service at all.

"It is not too much to say that the situation involves the future policy of regulation of public utilities. Regulation was designed to secure, as the preambles to many of the laws say, 'the best possible service.' If it operates for any reason to prevent the giving of the service

demanded it will be discarded and some other method of control or operation substituted.

"Increased cost of labor, of materials and of capital, have been met in every other industry, by an increased price of the commodity manufactured, or the service rendered. Everything—food, clothing, necessities and luxuries—has increased in price. This is something to be expected. It is in response to the economic laws which govern prices. No legislation can or will for any length of time prevent it. Excessive profits can be curbed by law, but neither goods nor services can for long be sold below cost.

"It is perfectly apparent, then, that despite franchises, or statute, no business, even if it be a quasi-public business, can be conducted at a loss without financial and even physical ruin. The same economic laws that apply to the price of bread apply to the price of a streetcar ride. The fact that the state assumes the right to regulate the latter will in no way prevent disaster if, in exercising the power, it puts the price below cost.

"The public is squarely and fairly confronted with the alternatives of a service which will not meet its needs, or an increase in price commensurate with the increase in the cost of doing business."

The foregoing statement of the situation must strike the fair-minded person as representing the actual facts, and, what is primarily essential, it represents the facts as they apply to the whole electric railway industry in which there is invested the enormous sum of approximately \$5,000,000,000 in this country alone.

VOTE 100 X YES

PORTLAND RAILWAY, LIGHT & POWER COMPANY.

Your Fifty Dollar Liberty Bond

IT WILL protect 1,000 soldiers from smallpox and 666 from typhoid. It will assure the safety of 139 soldiers from lockjaw, the germs of which swarm in the Belgian soil.

IT WILL render painless 400 operations, supply 2 miles of bandages—enough to bandage 555 wounds.

IT WILL care for 100 injuries in the way of "first-aid packets."

IT WILL furnish adhesive plaster and surgical gauze enough to benefit thousands of wounded soldiers.

EVERY PURCHASER of a Liberty Loan Bond performs a distinct, individual service to his country and to our boys fighting in France.

Multnomah State Bank

Lents, Station



JOHN COOK, of Tremont, Republican Candidate for Sheriff

Paid Advertisement "John Cook for Sheriff" League, Selling First 1412.