

ST. JOHNS REVIEW

Devoted to the interests of the Peninsula, the Manufacturing Center of the Northwest

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The Oil Situation

As interest runs pretty high regarding developments and prospects at the Vale oil fields, in which a large number of St. Johns folks are personally interested, we publish the following letter from R. W. Rames, an oil expert with a vast amount of experience, and who has been on the ground for the past six months or more. Glowing reports came from Eastern Oregon Oil and Gas Co.'s holdings this week, and there now seems to be not the slightest doubt but that oil in large quantities underlie their grounds. The water is impregnated with it, large globules of it may be seen in every bucket of water taken from the well, and a letter from there this week states that oil is beginning to flow into the well in small streams from the sands that have been pierced. To quote Mr. Rames, whose communication was received here some days ago:

Vale, Oregon, April 22d, 1910. The Baker & Malheur Oil & Gas Co., Mr. A. Backus, Assistant Secretary.

My Dear Sir: We received your valued favor of the 15th a few days ago. Have postponed the answer in order to get more definite information.

There is an increasing interest being manifested in the field at this time. The "Eastern Oregon" have succeeded in shutting off the water and the gas and oil showing is VERY encouraging. It looks as though they would bring in a well very soon. I will be in touch with them at all times and will let you know as soon as anything of importance happens.

The "Columbia" have the casing set, water cut off, and the showing is fine. They may be first to bring in a gusher. The Mammoth Co. are setting casing at 1100 feet. They will be in good shape to make a showing soon. The "Malheurs" have not received their car of casing yet, so nothing doing. The "Ontario" well is down 3600 feet, casing set and drilling. They have had three big gas blow outs of late that threw the water out of the casing under 2000 feet of water. I talked with their driller a few days ago, and he stated that in his opinion they would strike a gusher soon, as they were drilling in hard gray shale that might be the capping over the oil pool. The great gas pressure and other evidence in the way of large oil flows all indicate SOMETHING DOING SOON. The writer agrees that it does look mighty encouraging.

A number of oil men from various parts of the country are here waiting for the coming-in demonstration expected daily. We have a refinery man with us ready to ship his refinery from Texas as soon as the oil can be obtained. He states that in his opinion we will have one of the greatest high grade oil fields in the United States. He is located here now.

California is increasing her great dividend payroll by millions. March dividends will amount to over \$1,000,000. The "Lake View" gusher, only recently brought in, has netted its owners in nine days over \$200,000. The great "Mays" gusher is doing as well. Several others are pouring forth the liquid gold at the rate of 25,000 to 30,000 barrels per day. At California price for oil (only about 60 cents per barrel), thousands are drawing monthly more money than they know how to take care of. A friend of mine is receiving \$2,500 a day from his interest—he was a poor man a short time ago. There are hundreds of just such instances. Thousands more will be added to the list in the next year. This is California.

Now there are a host of them waiting to rush into Vale as soon as there is a well brought in. Why? Because the Malheur field is high grade oil. It will not bring less than \$2.00 to \$3.00 per barrel. High grade refining, high grade lubricating, paraffine base oil, that will make money FIVE TIMES AS FAST as California oil. Can you grasp and handle these figures? Think of a stream of money flowing from a gusher on the Baker & Malheur land (just one—there is room for a dozen or twice that number)—30,000 barrels a day, worth \$2.00 or \$3.00, would net over \$100,000 a day, pay \$1,000,000 every ten days, or one dollar per share on the capital stock, \$1,000 per day to the lucky owner of 10,000 shares. Doesn't that sound good? Well, it is more than possible that time will see ten times that amount being taken from your holdings.

The stock of your company is worth now par to any one. It will be worth \$10.00 per share when the company gets a well down. It is only a question of a little money to

An Interesting Session

A petition for the improvement of Leonard street, Chicago to New York, by macadam surface and six-foot cement walks, was the first matter taken up by the St. Johns city council last night. The engineer was directed to prepare the necessary plans for its improvement.

A petition from the fire department asking for the privileges of the streets and public grounds for holding a big Fourth of July celebration here met with favor by the city council. The fire department is desirous of having full charge and control of the projected jollification, which it is proposed to make of some magnitude.

A protest against the erection of the bell tower was lodged with the aldermen by the fire department in no uncertain terms. The department claims such erection is a flagrant violation of the fire ordinance, an unsightly obstacle and dangerous to adjoining property. The firemen and several adjoining property owners were represented by Attorney S. H. Greene, who stated that underneath the site of the proposed tower is an old well 164 feet deep and six feet in diameter, used by the old St. Johns Water Co., that said well was covered at the top to a depth of 30 feet with planking underneath, and that the bell tower erected with this well unlined would be particularly dangerous when high winds prevailed. Mr. Greene intimated if council did not see fit to abandon the project the matter would be aired in court. Several property owners also expressed fear if the tower was constructed as proposed. The contract having been let and the concrete piers placed, under the premises council finds itself in a rather bad dilemma. They feel that the firemen have not treated them fairly, since they said it was at their instance that the tower was ordered constructed. To protest after the contract had been let instead of before made it look to the aldermen as if the fire boys were anxious to get council in a "hole." Matter was held in abeyance for a week's deliberation, and the old well was ordered filled.

Manager Hickman presented a smooth array of figures in attempted justification of the exorbitant prices now charged for telephone service by the Pacific Telephone Co. He stated that 217 phones are now installed in this city at an average rental of \$2.25 per month. Against this, he said, was \$247 for operator's salaries, \$50.00 for a lineman per month, and that taxes and rent of office ate up the balance, so that the company practically obtained no returns from their investment here. They must needs, therefore, raise the price. He claimed the service was as good as could be afforded, that under the provision of their franchise they were permitted to charge a maximum of \$8 per month. In some cases they are making this the minimum also. Mr. Hickman advanced the information that the company is now installing an \$800 switchboard here and that a cable would be run across the river and extend to Linton, when free service to this point would be given to St. Johns.

The Fessenden street improvement proposition then entertained council, and after discussing the matter for some time, it was decided to invite the Portland Railway, Light & Power Co. officials and the property owners of Fessenden street to meet jointly with council and endeavor to arrive at some satisfactory conclusion so that the improvement of this street could proceed without further delay.

Bills amounting to \$1638.41, which included almost a year's electric light service, were allowed. The engineer was instructed to prepare plans and estimates for the hard surfacing of Jersey street, Fessenden to Richmond, Philadelphia, Jersey to Ivanhoe, and Burlington street, Jersey to Hayes, to be either of asphaltum or other durable substance.

Ordinances adopting the viewers' report on the opening and extension of Charleston street were passed.

The engineer guaranteed to have the Burlington sewer project in shape for adoption next Tuesday night.

Over this stock away at 25 cents and let's get the oil, and show people who need a demonstration what we are talking about.

Yours very truly, (Signed) R. W. Rames.

Free! Free! Get a check-book free from the First National Bank. Put your pay-check in the bank. Pay your bills by check. It will help your credit. Will help you save.

Some Lively Boxing

A stirring fistfight was held in the skating rink Tuesday night, under the auspices of the Firemen's Athletic club. The chief event was the ten-round go scheduled to take place between Prof. Frank Ely of St. Johns and Bobby Evans of Portland. This was the most exciting pugilistic encounter that has ever been pulled off in this city. Owing to the brevity of time for training Ely was not in fit condition to enter the ring, and as a consequence Evans had things pretty much his own way all through to the sixth round, when Ely decided it was the better part of valor to throw up the sponge. The Prof. put up a game fight, but he realized he stood but little show of winning the decision over his younger opponent. Again he has been demonstrated that time stiffens the limbs, dims the sight and slows the action of us all, and no matter what we were once, it is impossible to "come back." It has been tried time and again, but ever with the same result. Ely has no reason to feel badly over his defeat. He has fought many a good fight and for a time was numbered among the top notchers in the profession. But it is the way of all flesh. Sooner or later the most mighty must fall. The courage may be ever so strong but the flesh fails as time wears on. There is many a good fight left in Ely, but he can never more be what he once was. He is entitled to all the honors of the profession, however, for what he has been, Evans is a comer, and he fully demonstrated to the crowd present that he will ere long be perched upon the topmost rung of pugilistic fame. Quick, active, and a hard and ready fighter, he took the offensive from the start and kept Ely busy defending himself against the onslaught of blows, and it was only through Ely's cleverness in blocking and evading blows that he escaped with slight punishment. The preliminaries were intensely interesting. Dan Herald and Alfred Scott, two local lads, went at it in whirlwind fashion and never let up until the four-round bout was concluded. Honors were about even. The boys were both full of ginger and entertained the audience immensely.

Wynn Manning and Rupert Irwin of St. Johns were the participants in the second preliminary. Manning soon demonstrated that he was master of the situation, telling his opponent to the floor twice in the first round. As the third round started he again downed Irwin once more, when the referee decided that matters had gone far enough and the bout was terminated. Wynn is improving right along and with a little more practice he could give even Evans a good run for his money. Irwin was game and showed some skill, but will need considerable training yet to be in Manning's class.

Antoine Peterson and Frank Dollarhyde, two locals, furnished lots of amusement for the crowd. They went at it hammer and tongs and some of the wild lunges they made almost fractured the atmosphere. Very little science was shown, but there was plenty of hitting.

Danny O'Brien refereed the preliminaries, while Thomas Glover did the honors for the Ely-Evans setto.

Means Great Things

The visit of James J. Hill and party to Portland during the past week has been of great significance. Accompanied by railroad officials, Louis W. Hill has left Portland to make a tour of the state. He will cross Central Oregon and see for himself what the tonnage possibilities of that great region are. After this trip, it is expected that a definite announcement will be made as to the expected east and west lines across the state. While in Portland, Mr. Hill talked freely and his statements mean much for Oregon. He confirmed his purchase of the Oregon Electric and United Railways, interurban systems running out of Portland, and says he will extend them down the Willamette Valley. He also confirmed his purchase of the Pacific & Eastern but said it was yet too early to talk of a connecting road clear across the state. The Donahue road will of course go ahead as fast as possible, he said, and besides all this railroad activity in this state, Mr. Hill proposes to do a great deal in securing publicity for Oregon throughout the East and middle West.

A good line of trunks at Caley Bros., opposite postoffice.

Man Cannot Put Asunder

There continues to be a good deal of drivelling pulpiter palaver about the so-called divorce evil. The divorce evil is as nothing compared with the evil of yoking a lot of mismatched people together for life, and then setting up the plea that man must not put asunder what God has joined together. It is not possible for man to put asunder that which God has joined together, but that which God has not joined together, is all legitimate grist for the mills of the courts, whether it is only to separate chaff from chaff, or wheat from wheat. What God or good human judgment has joined together is never going about seeking the divorce courts. It is sacrilegious to charge God with having a hand in the joining together of mismatched couples. The principal causes of mismatched couples getting married are over-indulgent parents, unrestrained "puppy love," marrying for wealth or social standing, and the altogether too much eagerness on the part of some clergymen to get marriage fees. Many couples appearing before the clergy to be joined together, should be given some good advice and told to depart in single harness, and in some instances the couple should be spanked before being sent home to papa and mamma. In fact, there are instances when the papa and mamma should also be spanked. In the meantime, the courts should be as willing to put mismatched couples asunder as some preschers are to join them together, and then try to saddle the blame on God. —Exchange.

Firemen Play Ball

The fire department ball team defeated the Piedmont lads at the Hill grounds Sunday morning by a score of 9 to 5. The game was replete with good plays, bad plays and fair to middling. The locals proved that they have a good aggregation, but more experience is needed and more team practice. Uniforms were also conspicuous by their absence, except in two or three isolated instances, and this detracted from their appearance as a ball team. Wynn Manning is general superintendent of the "hard hitters" and he placed his men where they would do the most good. R. Lee and Al Peterson, the local battery, performed with the regularity of clock work, and if they do no worse in the games to be played later on, no cause for complaint will be afforded. The game was never in doubt, the firemen taking the lead in the first inning and keeping it well in hand until the finish. Piedmont put up a fairly good game, but Lee's pitching was too many for them. Several of the locals distinguished themselves while on bases by neglecting to run when a ball was struck with two men gone. The locals play at Linton next Sunday.

Wedding Bells

A pretty wedding was solemnized Wednesday evening, May 4th, at the home of Mrs. Sarah Shanks, 815 Stafford street, St. Johns, Oregon, when her daughter, Mary Lucia, was married to Carl H. Goschie, of Silverton, Oregon, Rev. H. F. Cheney of the University Park Baptist church officiating. The bride was becomingly gowned in white mull, with veil train, carrying white carnations. The bridal party entered the parlor under the strains of Mendelssohn's wedding march, rendered by Mrs. Martha Keller, who also sang "Oh, Promise me." After the ceremony a sumptuous wedding supper was served in the dining room, only immediate relatives and friends of the bride and groom being present. Many beautiful and useful presents were received. Mr. and Mrs. Goschie left the next evening for their home near Silverton, Oregon, and will be at home to their friends after May 15th.

New Capital Coming

The sale of the holdings of the Northwestern Corporation properties throughout Oregon, Washington and Idaho to H. M. Byllesby & Co., large Eastern investors, announced recently, was confirmed during the past week when the final options were closed in Philadelphia. This means the coming of a great amount of new capital to the Pacific Northwest where it will be used developing water powers and gas and electric plants.

Youngsters Were Busy

Several of our business men have been missing little things from their stores for some time, and finally a youngster was caught in the act of pilfering an article. He was put through the "third degree" and confessed, implicating half a dozen other lads. Six or seven of them were rounded up, and a mutual confession took place. M. S. Cobb and the St. Johns Pharmacy seemed to be the greatest sufferers from these depredations, the former losing in the neighborhood of \$15.00 worth of pencils, gum, toys, etc. One boy confessed to abstracting sixty post cards from the St. Johns Pharmacy at one fell swoop. The lads were allowed to go after promising to be good in the future. A careful watch will be kept at the various stores hereafter, and it will go hard with the next one caught in this pernicious practice.

At the Stock Yards

Receipts on this market for the week ending May 7th. have been: cattle 1484, calves 92, hogs 1071, sheep 4086, horses and mules 52. Most of the cattle have been from California and were of good quality and the prices at which they were sold indicate that the lower prices looked for at this time did not apply. The run of grass cattle has not started and while the packers undoubtedly expect to get lower priced cattle the supply, both in quantity and quality does not warrant a reduction. The sheep market has been well supplied throughout the week. Prices indicate a steady market. There were all sorts of sheep offered and the lowest priced brought all they were worth. The hog market is slowly following the lead of the River markets and while prices at Portland are \$1.50 per hundred higher than at other points the market is 10 cents lower than last week. D. O. Lively, General Agent.

Building Permits

No. 60—To N. Fletcher to erect a dwelling on Tiogo street, between Portland boulevard and Fessenden street; cost \$1,000.
No. 61—To E. F. Reid to enlarge residence on Stafford street between Tyler and Polk streets for Maud M. Reid; cost \$100.
No. 62—To August Wilhelm to alter building on Jersey street between Leavitt and Philadelphia streets by wood, glass and iron; cost \$200.
No. 63—To Chas. Bredeson to erect a dwelling on Buchanan street between Portland Boulevard and Hudson street; cost \$1200.

More Truth Than Poetry

There was a man in our town,
And he was wondrous wise,
When business got a little dull
He'd always advertise.
And when his goods were all sold out,
With all his might and main
He'd hustle round and get some more,
And advertise again.
And now that man is very rich,
And he has just retired;
While the firms that didn't advertise
Have most of them expired.
—Exchange.

When Greek Met Greek

Two Greeks got into an altercation at the St. Johns Lumber mills last Friday. Finally one became angry and picking up a pick lying near by, struck the other a vicious blow across the middle of the back. The victim was carried to his dwelling in an unconscious state, where he still lies in a serious condition. The assailant was arrested by the police and taken to the city hall prison to await the result of the injuries inflicted. The pick happened to strike with its blunt side, or death would undoubtedly have resulted immediately.

With the new sewer system to be constructed, Jersey street to be hard surfaced, Fessenden street to be improved its entire length with hard surface, many other streets to be improved, and an unprecedented amount of building under way, a very busy summer is confronting St. Johns.

The Blind

(Reflections of W. W. Holcomb, of St. Johns, while ten days in a dark room and sightless.)

Eternal darkness everywhere surrounds the sightless man. That fate condemns to daily woe, since time her flight began; The grand old bard, who epics wrote, preserved his stately mind, Yet age and want cruelly yoked him to the poor and blind.

Eternal darkness everywhere, above, about, around, A midnight blackness, day by day, and knowledge but a sound; The starry night, the sunny day, face of friend or foe, Dark, black, all is black and blind where'er we go.

Eternal darkness everywhere, forever day and night, Great God, what boon it is to have the glory of the sight! To see the beauties of this world, and those most near and dear, And walk the streets or mountains climb without a single fear.

Eternal darkness everywhere, but sunlight for your friends, Dark today, tomorrow black, mid-night that never ends; From such a fate deliver me, O Lord of light and life; Why should I fight a vainless fight, against eternal night?

Eternal darkness everywhere, rayless, sightless doom, The mind alone upon her throne can pierce the awful gloom; But when the mind in ruins falls, and shattered reason dies, Then welcome Lord the silent grave, the mystery of the skies.

The Neck Comes Higher

The barbers of St. Johns have inaugurated a system of charging five cents for shaving the nape of a man's neck in addition to the regular price of fifteen cents for shaving. Most of the patrons are taking the raise in a good natured way, others say they will hereafter shave themselves or get their wives to do it, while a few are cultivating a revolving neck so they can turn the trick themselves. Since the same system is in force in Portland, we believe our citizens have no "kick" coming.

Everything Uptodate

Frank Clark has been making some notable improvements to his place of business on South Jersey, and now has one of the finest ice cream and confectionery stores to be found anywhere on the Peninsula. More tables have been added, electric fans installed, and everything that tends to the comfort of the patrons provided. Fresh nuts, candies, fruit, pastry and delicious ice cream are constantly kept on hand.

Grounds Too Heavy

The Dilworth Derbies slaughtered the Peninsula team at the Portsmouth grounds Sunday afternoon by a score of 8 to 5. The Peninsula lads had an off day in the fielding department and their judgment on gauging flies was decidedly faulty, their sins of omission being greater than those of commission. The heavy condition of the grounds, however, was responsible for much of the poor showing made.

To Reclaim Low Land

A corporation with a capitalization of half a million dollars has been formed for the purpose of reclaiming much of the low lands belonging to the Swifts on the Peninsula. Several hundred acres will be filled and new sites for industries thus created. The project will cost several millions of dollars and require about five years to complete.

For Sale—A fifty dollar course in the Scranton International Correspondence School, any department, at 20 per cent discount, at rate of \$5.00 down, \$5.00 per month; further discount for cash. Address "B," this office.

The Electric Theatre is still drawing large crowds nightly. Each entertainment is first class in every respect and it requires about one hour's time to complete the films. Certainly a splendid place to spend a leisure hour.

Big Doings on July 4th

St. Johns is to have a screeching, howling Fourth of July celebration this year. The eagle will scream in its fullness of joy and red lemonade will flow in a stream. Peanuts and gingerbread will be on tap all day, and pleasures without end will obtain from daylight until a late hour at night. The fire department will have charge of affairs, which insures it being a red letter day with all the trimmings. The full details have not been worked out yet, but enough is known to induce one and all to decide to remain in St. Johns on fire cracker day. Send the glad tidings to all your friends both near and far, and invite them to join with us in having a day of unmitigated pleasure. The gates of the city will be thrown wide open, and there will be plenty of room for all.

Has Your Dog Got It

During several months of the past winter a mangy cur was seen by many roaming around the streets, with a pathetic pleading in its eyes for some one to shoot it. The good Samaritan failed to appear, however, and the afflicted canine with the mournful eyes continued to peep before the public gaze. It has likely been gathered to its fathers long before this, but it left a trail of woe behind it. Upon good authority it is said there is now scarcely a dog in St. Johns that has not become infected with the mange. Owners knowing their dogs to be thus afflicted should subject it to the following treatment, which has been prescribed by whisker doctor Harry Mansfield, who is authority on dogs and their ills: Wash the four-legged one with soap and water, give three cathartic pills (if large dog; if small one, two pills) then get a dime's worth of sheep dip, put tablespoonful in a basin of water and give Mr. Dog a good bath with the solution. This is guaranteed to kill any mange that ever attacked the four-legged friend of man.

Local and Otherwise

Read Couch & Co.'s new ad in this issue. He has a message for you.

For Sale—One dozen White Leghorn hens. All good layers. 514 Dayton Street.

To Let—Furnished room in fine modern home. 313 North Hayes, corner of Chicago.

Wanted—To borrow \$300 at 8 per cent for two years. Gilt edged security. Address "B," this office.

J. F. Gillmore made the first sale of a lot in 1910. Addition, it being to the "No 1" citizen mentioned last week.

Wanted—Young men and young women, 16 years of age or over. Portland Manufacturing Co., foot of Richmond street.

For Sale—Thoroughbred Plymouth Rock and Buff Orpington eggs, \$1.00 per setting. L. A. Smock, 1415 Oswego street.

Every woman ought to have a savings account of her own. She should do this because it gives her a rest for life, teaches her to save. The First National Bank welcomes woman patrons. Time Certificates of Deposit.

Call us up and give your address. We make calls in all parts of the city. Our dyed work is guaranteed satisfactory. St. Johns Cleaning, Pressing and Dyeing Works, 110 Philadelphia Street. Phone Jersey 1131.

Caley Bros., opposite postoffice, have broken all previous records this spring in linoleum selling, having sold over \$800 worth since January 1st. Let them show you this line.

For Sale or Exchange—160 acres of wheat land, 3 1/2 miles from O. R. & N. Ry., near Wasco. Ore; 100 acres under cultivation; 1/2 mile from school and postoffice. Will trade for acreage, improved, or unimproved, near St. Johns. See J. J. Karr, 908 Portland Boulevard.

FOR RENT cards at this office.