

**THE ST. JOHNS REVIEW**  
BY A. W. MARKLE

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Wouldn't the cheer of Christmas time be greatly enhanced if there was an unwritten law permitting only of the exchange of Christmas cards or inexpensive remembrances? Since it has been commercialized its approach is a matter of alarm to the one with a slender pocket book and many friends. It is not the value of the present, but the spirit in which it is given that counts. Christmas never should be made a season of burden and stretching the credit. But such it is today. A change to inexpensive remembrances would be heartily greeted by all.

The vindictiveness in some mortals is almost insatiable. The morning after that blot upon civilization that took place at Salem last Friday, the Oregonian, not satisfied or satiated with offering up four victims on the altar of a mistaken civilization, yearns for more victims. Editorially it stated, in part: "Four men were hanged at Salem yesterday; but Webb, an execrable murderer, who slew a harmless man for the sake of lust and money, still lives; and Hassing, who foully assassinated his innocent wife, also lives, x x x Mrs. Kersh, paramour of the unspeakable Webb, lives, too; but she is a candidate for parole, which doubtless she will soon achieve. Eleven men wanted to hang Mrs. Kersh, at her trial; but one objected and the result was a verdict for manslaughter, x x x Let the governor, if he can, revoke the reprieves of Webb and Hassing, and fix another date for their execution." Why should Webb be killed after a jury had saved his equally guilty companion from the rope? A woman who participates and acquiesces and delivers up her husband to death is even more deeply guilty than the man who perpetrates the deed. The ends of justice could not be served by killing one and letting the other go practically unpunished. Governor West had a perfect right and a fine sense of justice in commuting Webb's sentence to life imprisonment under the circumstances, thus more evenly balancing the scales of justice, which by the way, are still hopelessly unbalanced and lop-sided in this instance. Since the Oregonian is so strong for majority rule, why does it not advocate degree of guilt upon a majority vote of the jury in murder cases? No one can do but that if the Mrs. Kersh case were put up to the voters of Oregon to find a degree of guilt that at least a two-thirds majority would have declared for murder in the first degree. We praise about our high sense of justice and yet we permit one man out of a jury of twelve to sway the convictions of the other eleven, who finally vote to change their convictions, not because they believed they were wrong, but because the eloquence of one man influences or warps their better judgment, and in order to finish the case acquiesce and give in to the one man. One cannot help but admire the one man, but what shall we say of the other eleven? Yet this is termed justice. It is difficult, indeed, to have a clear understanding of what justice really consists of. However, had capital punishment been abolished in Oregon, we firmly believe that this same jury would have rendered a verdict of murder in the first degree in Mrs. Kersh's case, and the two murderers would have been punished equally as severe. That would be our idea of justice.

**To Our Subscribers**

Owing to the fact that free mail delivery service will be inaugurated in St. Johns on January 1st, 1913, and that thereafter the Review will be delivered by carriers, it is imperative that we should secure the address of each subscriber. Therefore, we ask each subscriber residing within carrier limits to cut out and fill in the blank form below, and send same to the Review office.

Name.....  
Street Number.....  
Street.....

This is a time of poultry shows. Albany and Astoria have just held very successful exhibits of aristocratic feathered fowl and Portland is next. Orengo people, believing that chicken raising is a means of grace, held their first show last Friday in the basement of a church.

**A Lively Meeting**

One of the very best in its history was the monthly meeting of the St. Johns Commercial club held Wednesday evening. More enthusiasm, more get-together feeling and more good fellowship was never before exhibited. Good speaking, good music and good feast aided materially in bringing about this happy condition. John A. Nolte, the best booster and all around good fellow that the East Side has yet been able to produce, and who has recently been elected to the State Legislature, lent his presence, his genial voice and a goodly portion of his enthusiasm. He told of the close affiliation that should exist between the local Commercial Club and North Portland club, of which he has been a leading spirit, declaring that the interests of each were identical and synonymous, and that which would benefit one community would also benefit the other. He advised the club to get into communication with the management of the new electric car line that is seeking franchise in Portland; that the chances were quite favorable that the line might be extended to St. Johns, take in the Swift plant and encircle the lower peninsula provided the proper pressure were brought to bear. He believed the interstate bridge that he hoped and expected would cross the Columbia and the opening of the Panama canal would work wonders for Portland and the gateway to Portland especially. He saw a great and grand future in store for the peninsula which would ripen and develop with celerity in the near future. Later on in the evening, when the matter of a bill providing for consolidation of cities was under discussion, Mr. Nolte took occasion to tell how the question of annexation or consolidation of St. Johns with Portland came to be brought to an election issue. Some time previously, he said, Mr. Josslyn of the Portland Railway, Light & Power Co., stated to him that the company was going to raise the car fare from St. Johns to Portland from five cents to ten cents, unless it became a part of Portland. Mr. Nolte a few days later had business that called him to St. Johns, and he spread the news among a number of citizens. It was only a matter of a short time, he said, until petitions were being circulated calling for an election on annexation.

President of the local club, H. E. Pennell discussed at some length the virtues of the laborer's compensation bill that would come up for consideration of the legislators at the coming session. He believed it a fine thing, both as a protection of the laborers against the manipulation of shyster and grasping attorneys and also a safeguard to employers. He cited an instance in which his company was interested, wherein an injured employe had secured a judgment for \$6500 for injuries sustained, and an attorney had attempted to garnish \$3,750 of it, leaving the smaller portion for the laborer. A somewhat similar law is in effect in the state of Washington, where it is giving eminent satisfaction, and Mr. Pennell asked that Mr. Nolte give the proposed law careful and serious consideration, which the latter gentleman promised to do. Mr. Nolte stated that as representative he was quite desirous of the co-operation of the club and citizens in general; that he wanted to represent the people in the best and wisest manner possible, and that this could only be done through co-operation.

Attorney Geo. J. Perkins, a former well known citizen and professional man of St. Johns, who at one time was the leading light and progressive element in local commercial club circles, and who gave unlimited time and attention to the upbuilding and advancement of St. Johns, made an interesting address. He told of his unbounded faith in St. Johns, how it was bound to grow and develop and flourish even beyond the dreams of the most optimistic. He criticized to some extent the spirit of discord and unanimity of purpose that he had met with and experienced while he was an active force in St. Johns' business life, but that he was glad to note that this feature was dying out and a better and more hopeful spirit prevailing.

D. C. Lewis made a few interesting remarks, in which he took occasion to compliment the city officials on the splendid work they have been doing and the celerity with which they transact business. He said that he had attended the last session of the city council, and in all his experience he had never seen so large a body of business transacted and in such a satisfactory manner in so short a time by any legislative body. He said they were all working together, giving their very best for St. Johns welfare. Mr. Lewis called the attention of Mr. Nolte to the fact that at the recent election the measure providing for consolidation of cities in the State

**SAVE**

**The Road To Wealth is Marked--**

The directions are simple, plain, but positive-- Save! Save! Save!!!

You can not expect to accumulate wealth or even a competence, by spending all you earn.

Don't save carelessly or spasmodically. Follow a system. Make regular deposits and keep it up persistently.

Make the start today. Open a savings account here--a dollar is all you need. We pay 4 per cent interest.

**First National Bank St. Johns Ore.**

had met with defeat, and he believed it only just and proper that another bill of like nature be framed for submission to the electors two years hence. He attributed its recent defeat to the fact that a county division proposition had been embodied in the same measure which was unsatisfactory to the people at large. At the close of his remarks, Mr. Autzen raised the question, whether we were working for Portland or St. Johns, intimating that consolidation was not for the best interests of St. Johns at this time.

Perry C. Stroud made a few remarks on the compensation bill and also upon the consolidation measure, and was followed by C. C. Currin, who in a few words, predicted that the Elks' lodge about to be installed here would prove the biggest thing that ever happened.

In the course of the club's business routine, Mr. Autzen strongly urged the importance of continuous ferry service, stating that the present service was far from satisfactory. This proposition was hailed with general approval, and a committee consisting of A. Larowe, E. R. Smith, P. Autzen, K. C. Couch and A. S. Benson was appointed by the meeting to endeavor to persuade the county court of the advisability of such innovation.

Pascal Hill told of the willingness of the city council to work in conjunction with the club in advancing any project that tended to the betterment and upbuilding of St. Johns.

Sneed's orchestra rendered delightful music for the occasion. A feast under the skillful supervision of Mrs. Miller, the restaurateur, was all that could be desired. The attendance was large and all enjoyed the music, speeches and feast thoroughly.

**How is Your Title?**

Have your abstracts made, continued or examined at the Peninsula Title, Abstract and Realty Co. Accurate work. Reasonable fees. H. Henderson, manager, 208 North Jersey, McDonald building.

Get your Christmas china at Calef Bros. Their 15c line is remarkable in value.

**The Christmas Question**  
**What Shall I Give?**  
If you have any little relatives or friends who have not savings accounts what more practical gift could you offer than a Peninsula National Pass Book with a nest egg deposit of a dollar or more?  
Many of our army of successful money savers get their start in this way.  
**PENINSULA NATIONAL BANK**  
Oldest Bank on the Peninsula  
4 Per Cent Interest on Savings

**The Library**  
Open Hours: 1:00 to 5:30 and 7 to 9:30 p. m.  
Sundays: 2:30 to 5:30

The new picture on the library wall is Durham Cathedral on the river Wear, England. It is a massive pile in the Norman style, commenced in 1035 as a monument to St. Cuthbert. At the east end in the Galilee chapel lie the bones of the venerable Bede. The cathedral is almost surrounded by the river and the banks have been laid out as public walks.

Ask at the library for Christmas stories, poems, etc.

For the children's Christmas: The committee which at the December Mothers' meeting was authorized to make out a suggestive list of books for gifts to children has decided that since the time is so short the best thing they can do is to recommend the list which has already been put out by the Oregon Library Commission. The best known book dealers are co-operating with the Commission by carrying the books suggested in stock so that no one should have any trouble in procuring them. The list contains over 200 of the best books for children. They are all books worth owning, not those which last only for the year, and mothers and fathers seeing their children reading them may be sure they are in the best of company. The lists may be had for the asking at the library. A note after each title tells the nature of the book thus making the best choice for each child possible.

New Books: Saint Maur-- Making home profitable. The story of one woman's emancipation from city life. She tells how she built up a profitable home in the country having little more than her busy brain and two hands and abundant courage to start with. The chief part of her book is devoted to poultry raising inasmuch as it was the stepping stone which enabled her to reach the haven of a self-supporting home and which she believes is the foundation on which a city woman can build her expectation of rural prosperity. She devotes several chapters to vegetables, flowers, fruit, bees and pigs.

Canfield--Squirrel cage. The story of a girl from the year's travel after she finishes school to the end of an unsuccessful married life. She has in her the great unrest of a young woman who thinks but who is circumscribed by the conventionalities of a middle western town. Her case is typical of the tragedy of a host of American women of today but it must be said that no new or particularly helpful solution to the problem is offered. It is no more solved by the dynamo accident at the end than a game of chess would be solved if the electric lights went out in the middle of it.

**Notice of Adjourned Annual School Meeting**

Notice is hereby given to the legal voters of School District No. 2 of Multnomah county, state of Oregon, that the Adjourned Annual School Meeting of said District will be held at the Central School House, to begin at the hour of 8 p. m. on the fifth Monday of December, being the 30th day of December, A. D. 1912.

This meeting is called for the purpose of levying a special tax for general school purposes and the transaction of business usual at such meeting.

Dated this 19th day of December, 1912.  
F. P. DRINKER,  
Chairman Board of Directors,  
Attest: J. E. TANCH,  
District Clerk.  
Published in the St. Johns Review Dec. 20 and 27, 1912.

**FOR SALE**

- One lot 50x106 set with bearing fruit trees.
- One corner lot 97x106 near school house.
- One corner lot 106x117, Leonard street.
- Two lots 50x130 each, Kellogg street.
- One house and lot 50x100 Jersey street.
- One cottage and lot 50x106, Central Avenue.
- Two lots 50x106 Central Avenue.
- One business lot on Jersey street, near postoffice, 50x100.
- One 7 room house, lot 100x106, on Central Avenue.

The above properties are all first class and can be purchased at reasonable prices and most of them on time payments. For these and other desirable bargains see

**J. E. WILLIAMS**  
Room 4, Holbrook Block

**HOTEL HEILIX**

Second and Yamhill  
Conveniently located, modern in every respect. Hot and cold running water in each room, telephones, elevator, etc. European plan. Rates \$3.00 per week and up, daily rates 50c, 75c, \$1.00. Reasonable rates for permanent guests; also special rates by the month.  
Main 9720



**Useful Xmas Gifts**

- Couches, Davenport
- Buffets, China Closets
- Dining Tables, Dressers
- Ladies' Desks, Rockers
- Easy Chairs, Rugs
- Art Squares, Clocks
- Lamps, Doll Carts
- Dinner Sets, Fancy China
- Carving Sets, Table Silver

Get our prices before you go over to the High Rent Stores.

**St. Johns Furniture Company**  
CASH OR CREDIT

**Notice of Cost of Improvement**

Notice is hereby given that the assessment for the improvement of Burlington street from first and second streets to center of Block 29, the total cost of which is \$10,380.18, was declared by Ordinance No. 520, entitled "An ordinance declaring the cost of improving Burlington St. from the northeasterly line of Bradford street to the center line of Block 29, James John 2nd Add. to the city of St. Johns, Oregon, and assessing the property benefited thereby, declaring such assessment and directing the entry of the same in the docket of city liens." The cost of said improvement is levied upon all the lots, parts of lots and parcels of land within the boundaries of the district described as follows: Between the northeasterly line of Bradford street and the center line of Block 29, James John 2nd addition.

A statement of said assessment has been entered in the docket of city liens December 20, 1912, and said assessment is now due and payable at the office of the recorder of the city of St. Johns, Oregon, and will be delinquent and bear interest after Dec. 30, 1912, and if not paid on or before Jan. 19, 1913, proceedings will be taken for the collection of the same by sale of property as provided by the city charter.

F. A. RICE,  
Recorder  
Published in the St. Johns Review on Dec. 20 and 27, 1912.

**NOTICE OF Proposed Assessment**

Notice is hereby given that apportionment of the cost of Hartman street from the easterly line of Seneca street to the westerly line of Myers street, total cost is \$307.59, has been apportioned and is on file in the office of the undersigned, subject to examination.

Assessment district extends back to the center of lots, blocks or tracts of land abutting on said street as provided by the city charter and resolutions.

Remonstrances against said apportionment may be made in writing and filed with the undersigned until 5 o'clock p. m. January 6, 1913.

F. A. RICE,  
City Recorder,  
Published in the St. Johns Review Dec. 20 and 27, 1912.

**NOTICE OF Proposed Assessment**

Notice is hereby given that apportionment of the cost of improving Olympia street from the northeasterly line of Myers st. to the easterly line of Charleston street, total cost of which is \$1,894.55 has been apportioned and is on file in the office of the undersigned, subject to examination.

Assessment district extends back to the center of lots, blocks or tracts of land abutting on said street as provided by the city charter and resolutions.

Remonstrance against said apportionment may be made in writing and filed with the undersigned until 5 o'clock P. M. January 6, 1913.

F. A. RICE,  
Recorder,  
Published in the St. Johns Review Dec. 20 and 27, 1912.

**Blankets and Comforts Reduced for the Holidays**

Don't fail to inspect our showing of these staples. We have a large assortment of these at prices exceedingly low. ∴ ∴ ∴  
\$.85 values for \$.65  
1.75 values for 1.25  
2.00 values for 1.50  
2.25 values for 1.75  
4.00 values for 3.00

**See our window display of HAND BAGS**  
Genuine Leather

**These Make Excellent Gifts**

Christmas Slippers for Ladies and men, the popular fur trimmed Juliets and those nice comfy slippers with everlasting soles in red, black, gray and tan. Men's Everett styles in black and chocolate.

**You will feel better in one of our English Slip-ons**  
thoroughly proofed and rubberized. We are selling these below Portland prices.

**Store open evenings until Christmas**  
**Closed all day Wednesday, December 25**

**Couch & Co.**  
"PIONEERS"  
Distributors of Merchandise Since 1904