

OREGON CITY COURIER.



In a Great Measure

People have to depend on the word of the dealer as to the quality of carpets. It is easy to make a price cheap at the expense of the quality. Easy to hide the cheat, too. Only safe way is to deal at a reliable house, such as ours. \$5000 is our carpet investment this year. Patterns to please everybody. Prices from 15 cents a yard and up.

BELLOMY & BUSCH,
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OPPOSITE COURT HOUSE

SINGER MILL BURNED.

The Structure a Total Loss with No Insurance.

The seven-story building that has towered above the head of the Seventh street stairway for the past 18 years was burned to the ground last Friday morning about 1:30. While this building was not as old as many others standing in this city, it has cut a more or less important figure in the history of this town. It was completed in 1880 for a flouring mill by William Singer, now of Albina. Mr. Singer had the reputation of being one of the best mill-wrights in Oregon, and put his best efforts into the construction of this building. He was assisted in the work by his son, William Singer, jr., also a mill-wright, who now lives in the state of Washington. The frame work was solidly and substantially built of hewed cedar and every joint was made to fit, and when the structure was completed at the end of two years its handiwork was the pride of its builders and the admiration of the public. The mill, however, did not prove a paying investment, and Mr. Singer lost labor and money in the venture. At first the machinery of the mill was operated by the waste water from the reservoir of the water works, which stood a short distance above the mill, but one night some party or parties blew out the dam in the reservoir. The flood of waters from the reservoir carried off a lot of fattening hogs under the mill and washed them down under the old brewery. Then Mr. Singer used a steam engine for motive power for awhile, but somehow or other the mill continued to be a non-paying investment.

It is said that at one time that Mr. Singer did a pretty good business at the mill, until he got to taking too much toll from the farmers, who brought in their wheat. L. O. Caples and another party afterwards leased the mill and did a pretty good business, until the former was laid up for a couple of months as the result of an accident. While Mr. Caples was confined to his home, his partner made the fatal mistake of taking too much toll and again the trade of the farming community was lost. Since that time the mill has been idle, and had become noted as a lodging house for tramps, and a trysting place for not over scrupulous lovers. The walls of the building had become weather-beaten with the rains and winds of many winters, and was looked upon as an eyesore by the public.

There can be no doubt, but that the fire was the work of an incendiary, and on account of the conditions surrounding the structure, it is a matter of wonder that it had not been set on fire before. The dry cedar lumber in the building made an immense blaze, that lit up the city for a long distance, and the efforts of the firemen were principally directed to keep the stairway and other buildings in the vicinity from burning. The solid framework of the structure remained standing in a menacing way, until pushed over by the firemen, and was destroyed by the smouldering embers.

The building and the lots on which it stood are now the property of Mrs. Ina Williams, of The Dalles, a relative by marriage to Mr. Singer. A few years ago she was offered \$1800 by W. W. Myers for the property, but her attorney advised her not to sell for less than \$2,000. Because the building was an old one and not occupied, does not justify the anarchistic statement printed in a local contemporary, which reads as follows:

"The building has not been occupied for some time, and it is barely possible the fire was of incendiary origin. If that proves to be the case the firebug should be hunted down and presented with the congratulations of the entire community on the successful termination of his efforts."

Such utterances as these, are an endorsement of the work of firebugs, red-mouthed anarchists and cut-throat villains. The crime of setting fire to the Willamette or Weinhard's blocks, would not be one whit less, than kindling a flame in the Singer mill. It is fortunate, however, that the building burned when the rain was falling and everything damp, or the burning brands would have started a conflagration at a dozen different places in the city.

THEY NEVER SPEAK.—For 25 years, says the Portland Welcome, John and Mary Leninger, an old couple living near Oregon City, have not spoken. They were born in the same little town in Germany about 60 years ago, and were devoted lovers from early childhood. They grew up together and were married in the village church, and had every prospect of a long and happy married life. The husband was a carpenter and industrious, and they concluded to cast their lot in America. They crossed 3000 miles of ocean, and finally reached Clackamas county, where they located, and by strict economy and industry had their home paid for 10 years after. Two boys had been added to the family



of two, and all concerned were prosperous and happy, but a cloud appeared that has darkened their lives even until this day. One evening the husband came home late, and there was a disagreement with his wife. Neither the children or neighbors know the cause of their disagreement, but from that time on neither has spoken to the other. They have lived in the same house, but occupied different bed chambers, and while the wife sits on one side of the stove with her sewing, the husband would be on the other with his pipe and newspapers. After the estrangement the boys spent the greater part of the evenings away from home, and finally the oldest married and has a home of his own. Now the younger brother has left the parental roof and lives with his married brother. When they visit the old home they go together, so that while one talks to the mother, the other is being entertained by the father. Mr. Leninger always finds his meals ready at one end of the table, and eats in silence, and every Sunday morning lays an envelope on the table addressed to Mrs. Leninger, containing the amount of money for the household expenses. For 25 years they have not spoken to each other, and perhaps never will. It is said that they inconvenience themselves in many ways to avoid speaking, and thus they live on and on in the midst of plenty, while a dark cloud blots their very existence.

FIRE DEPARTMENT MATTERS.—Mayor Caulfield has called an election of the members of the Oregon City fire department to take place on Monday, March 7th, for the purpose of electing a chief engineer and assistant chief engineer. Wallace Cole is the present chief of the Oregon City fire department, and his term expires when his successor is elected and qualified. The candidates to be voted for at the election are for chief engineer, John F. Clark and Chris Hartman; for assistant engineer, C. M. Mason and Dr. E. A. Somer. Following is the roster of new officers of the various companies of the fire departments: Board of delegates—A. Willey, president; J. W. Stuart, secretary; Caleb Cross, treasurer. Fountain Hose Company No. 1—A. Knapp, president; J. W. Stuart, secretary; S. R. Green, treasurer; A. Willey, foreman; I. Pursiful, 1st assistant; L. Boylan, 2nd assistant. Cataract Hose Co. No. 2—G. B. Dimick, president; John F. Clark, secretary; Walter Little, treasurer; Wm. Sheehan, foreman; D. A. Dilman, assistant foreman. Hose Company No. 3—G. W. Church, president; W. B. Zumwalt, secretary; W. C. Green, treasurer; J. W. Jones, foreman; C. M. Mason, assistant foreman. Hook & Ladder Co.—J. W. Cole, president; A. Berry, vice-president; Willie Boylan, secretary; Fred Metzner, treasurer; S. Burford, foreman. Hose Company No. 4—C. Schuebel, president; P. D. Curran, secretary; Charles Moran, treasurer; Charles Ely, foreman; J. W. Groat, assistant foreman; Walter Curran, 2nd assistant foreman; fire delegates, E. Frost, Ferd Curran and W. G. Hall.

NO CHANGE OF VENUE.—Judge George, of the Multnomah county circuit court, denied a motion for a change of venue, made by Attorney J. C. Moreland, for the second trial of his client, Dan Magone, for robbing Ladd's grave at Riverside cemetery. Moreland wanted the second trial of Dan Magone transferred to Clackamas county, as he claimed that a jury could not be secured in Multnomah county, who did not read the papers. And, further, that the principal witnesses lived in Clackamas county, and the case could be tried with less expense than in Multnomah county. In denying the motion Judge George said that the people of Clackamas county read the papers, and that they were as familiar with the name of Mr. Ladd as the people of Multnomah county. Furthermore, it would entail additional expense to have the case tried in Clackamas county, as many of the important witnesses lived in Multnomah, and besides the prosecuting attorney would have to go to Oregon City to try the case.

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KENNEDY'S
167 First Street

SCHOOL DISTRICT VOTERS.—State Superintendent Irwin is sending out circulars to the county superintendents, informing school boards who can vote at school meetings under the law. The circular contains the gist of the recent decision by the supreme court. In all districts having a population of less than 1000 inhabitants, all parents of children, whether they pay property tax or not, can vote at school meetings. However, in districts having a population of 1000, women only can vote, who have the property qualification. As there is over 1000 population in the Oregon City school district, women only can vote here who pay a property tax, but in all the other school districts of Clackamas county, any woman who has children to send to school or pays other than a road tax can vote at school meetings. Male and female voters at school meetings require the same qualifications.

TEACHERS' MEETING.—Prof. T. J. Gary and Miss Estelle Bracken and Marjorie Caulfield, the program committee, have completed the arrangements for the Clackamas County Teachers' Association, to be held at the West Oregon City public school building next Saturday. On the program will be a song, "Mount Vernon Bells," by the association; supplementary reading, by Miss Harrietta Dotson, of Parkplace; Climate in Geography, by Prof. J. C. Zinser, Oregon City; solos, by Mrs. J. H. Strickler; Interest and Attention, by Prof. A. C. Strange, of Orient; solo, by Howard Strickler; an address, by Dr. T. W. Butler. A most interesting meeting is expected, and a large attendance of teachers is earnestly desired. Since the above was in type Prof. Heritage has been secured for the meeting.

MISS PILSBURY'S PARTY.—Miss Vera Pilsbury gave a delightful progressive hearts party Monday evening at the residence of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Pilsbury, corner of Seventh and Water streets. Ladies only, were invited, but the party proved a social success. The parlors were tastefully decorated and Miss Pilsbury was assisted in entertaining the guests by Misses Elma Albright, Laura Pope and Marie Pratt. Miss Mary Conyers won the first prize in the progressive hearts games, and Miss Amy Kelly was awarded the booby prize. Following is a list of those who were present: Misses May, Mina and Amy Kelly, Neita McCarver, Pauline Campbell, Vera Cau-

field, Ednetta Chase, Imogene Harding, Lucy Stanton of Roseburg, Ora Spangler, Erma Lawrence, Greta Strickler, Edith Wishart, Mamie Lewthwaite, Laura Beatie, Mary Conyers, Vera Pilsbury, Ina Chase, Kate Warde, Mattie Draper, Nettie Walden, Mertie Stevens, Ella Williams, Mrs. E. E. Williams, Mrs. Chas. Miller, Mrs. Wm. Andresen, Mrs. C. G. Huntley, Mrs. W. A. Huntley, Mrs. Harper, Mrs. F. T. Griffith, Mrs. Alex Lewthwaite, Mrs. T. A. Pope, Mrs. T. M. Miller, Mrs. R. A. Miller, Mrs. L. L. Pickens.

MISS FOUNTS' PARTY.—Miss Betta Founts gave a very entertaining progressive whilst party Tuesday evening at the residence of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Founts, on the corner of Fifth and High streets. Four prizes were awarded, two to the ladies and two to the gentlemen. Ed Allen and Miss Elma Albright won the first prizes, and E. A. Chapman and Miss Emma McGetchie, the booby prizes. Refreshments were served, and the gathering was one of the pleasant social occasions of the season. Those present were Misses Kate Warde, Pauline Campbell, Mamie and Alice Lewthwaite, Ino Harding, Lucy Stanton of Roseburg, Elma Albright, May Wishart, Mattie Draper, Clara Warner, Ina Chase, Marie Pratt, Josephine Chase, Emma McGetchie and Betta Founts; Messrs. E. A. Chapman, Chas. W. Pope, Ed Allen, John and William Lewthwaite, Gratton Cheney, Will Barghardt, Herman K. Jones and James Church.

A SURPRISE PARTY.—One of the notable gatherings of recent date was the party given Master W. Edward Rauch at the residence of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Rauch, at Gladstone last Saturday evening. The parlors were tastefully decorated with evergreens, house plants and Oregon grapes, and the program consisted of games, music and a splendid lunch. The young people enjoyed themselves immensely, and among those who were present were: Misses Daisy and Juliette Cross, Florence Longnecker, Pearl Opdycke, Mabelle Ethers, Maude Sandstrom, Jennie Hargreaves, Etta Simmons, Nettie and Ella Rauch; Masters Fred W. Parker, Dale Seavers, William Rivers, Alvah Witzig, Willie Hargreaves, Ralph Parker, W. Edward Rauch; Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Rauch.

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