

AGED COUPLE TO SEPARATE

Gray-haired Partners For Life
Will Dissolve Union.

AFTER A HALF CENTURY

Couple Were Married In 1857
and Have Raised Six
Grown Children, But
Seek Divorce.

After living together for nearly a half century and raising a family of six children, Mary H. Kent this week filed suit for divorce from her husband, S. B. Kent, on the ground of cruel and inhuman treatment. The couple were married in Crescent City, Iowa, in 1857; their six children, three boys and three girls, are all grown men and women, fighting life's battles for themselves, but the aged parents after 47 years of married life, can no longer live harmoniously together. Grown gray haired in each other's company and with the best of life behind them, the two will now probably dissolve partnership and travel the close of life's journey by separate pathways.

The complaint, filed by attorneys for the wife, who is plaintiff in the action, recites that her husband is guilty of cruel and inhuman treatment towards her. That for the past 20 years he has been in the habit of becoming drunk and continually drinking intoxicating liquors to excess. The defendant is charged with often going to town and returning drunk. While in that condition, he is said to become abusive and brutal in his treatment of her. He is said to always keep a jug of liquor in the house and when intoxicated he will forget where he has put it. He then charges his wife with having hidden it from him and curses and swears at her without reason.

He is alleged to have also threatened to kill her while he was intoxicated, and upon one occasion so frightened her by this threat that she was obliged to flee from home and seek refuge with a neighbor. The plaintiff asks for a decree separating her from her bibulous husband and to be adjudged owner of half the property held by the couple.

COUNCIL MEETS.

Special Session of the City Fathers Last
Friday Night.

The city council met last Friday night in short special session, the principle business being to accept the Center street improvement and order the payment in full of Contractors Jones & McKay. The final payment of \$2581.65 was ordered, and an additional payment of \$106 was ordered drawn for extra work performed by the contractors.

The matter of causing the Southern Pacific to remove the tracks along their right of way which is said to be on the property of the city, was deferred until an accurate survey of the premises shall be made. Attorney W. D. Fenton and the chief engineer of the Southern Pacific system, were present at the meeting of the council to look after the interest of the corporation.

The chief of police was ordered to arrest all persons failing to connect with sewer in district No. 3. If connection with the city system is longer delayed, proceedings will be instituted against delinquents.

The committee on streets and public property was instructed to purchase five barrels of crude oil for sprinkling Main street.

The city engineer was ordered to prepare plans for the improvement of Third street from Main street to Railroad avenue.

Fires in Country.

The forest fires which earlier in the summer were raging at Clarks, took a new lease of life last week, and the residents of the Clarks section became alarmed, as it threatened considerable damage to the homes of many farmers. Valuable papers were brought to this city and put in the bank for safe keeping until the danger of fire shall have passed. Residents of

Clarks fought the flames all night to prevent the burning of the Cummings' sawmill one night last week. The mill was saved. The fire then threatened considerable valuable timber owned by the Weyerhaeuser Company.

Beautiful Columbia River Folder.

The passenger department of the Oregon Railroad & Navigation Company has just issued a beautiful and costly panoramic folder entitled "The Columbia River, through the Cascade Mountains, to the Pacific Ocean." From Arlington to Portland, and from Portland to the Pacific Ocean, every curve of the river and every point of interest are shown, while Mt. Hood, Mt. Adams and Mt. St. Helens, perpetually covered with snow, stand out in all their beauty. On the back of the map is an interesting story in detail of the trip from Huntington to Portland, and from Portland to the ocean, not overlooking the beaches and the San Francisco trip by ocean. A copy of this folder may be secured by sending four cents in stamps (to pay postage) to A. L. Craig, General Passenger Agent of the Oregon Railroad & Navigation Company, Portland, Oregon. By sending the address of some friend in the East, and four cents in postage, the folder will be promptly mailed.

LOCAL OPTION ELECTION.

County Will Be Taken As a Unit On
Vote For Prohibition.

Citizens interested in the local option movement are busy circulating petitions among the voters for an election under the provisions of the new law in November at the regular presidential election. The petitions ask for a vote on the local option question in this county, disregarding the precinct unit and taking the county as a whole. The petitions were sent out by the prohibition alliance of Portland, a state organization which is doing the same in all counties of the state.

For a long time it was thought that the precinct would be taken as the unit in Clackamas County, and the local option committee itself rather favored this, but the prohibition alliance forwarded petitions asking for a vote as to whether saloons should continue in this county or not and the matter will be taken up in November on that basis if the requisite number of signatures are secured, and there seems no question but there will be.

This move on the part of the alliance is in the interests of the Prohibition party who hope to get out an especially large vote, this being presidential year and there being every indication that there will be a large vote cast. At the same time they claim that if the matter is taken up as a county issue, they will not lose, as under the provisions of the local option law, if certain precincts vote for prohibition, even if the county as a whole shall go against prohibition, those precincts will remain dry for the next two years following the election. The prohibitionists hope to poll enough votes in November to make a strong showing whereby they will become a force in this state strong enough to be reckoned with by the two leading parties. They hope to cast on the local option question, 10,000 votes in the state. At the June election the Prohibition candidate for chief justice received 6400 votes.

TRIED TO SUICIDE.

Local Blacksmith Attempted To End His
Life With Poison.

William Trimble, a local blacksmith, attempted suicide Monday night while drinking in Young's saloon on lower Main street, but before he could swallow the poison, the bottle was snatched from his hands by a relative, and his life saved.

After calling a few friends up to the bar for a drink, Trimble called for a whiskey, saying that it was the last drink he would ever take. After pouring out his whiskey, he took from his pocket a small vial and attempted to pour the contents into his glass of whiskey. A nephew who was with him at the time, H. Williams, saw the act and snatched the bottle away from him before he could accomplish his purpose. Trimble was despondent at the time he attempted his life, but from what cause is not known.

Gray Fox Killed.

Frank Guenther of Shubel killed a full grown gray fox on his farm on Monday and brought the skin to this city the first of the week. The animal had been stealing chickens belonging to Mr. Guenther as well as the fowls of other neighbors.

CITIZENS HOLD MASS MEETING

Construction of Electric Rail-
way to Portland

SPEECHES WERE MADE

Committees Are Appointed To
Gather Statistics As To
Amount of Traffic New
Road Could Expect.

A mass meeting held in Shively's Opera house Monday night by the promoters of the proposed motor line from this city to Portland, going by way of Clackamas, was largely attended by citizens of East Oregon City. The plan of the electric railway, which will tap a very rich part of the county and bring this city into closer communication with rich farming sections, met with the favor of all present, and those attending the meeting will strive to do all they can to make the motor line an assured thing.

Mr. C. F. Clark, of Clackamas, who is the original boomer of the proposed railway, was present and talked to the citizens, outlining his plan in bringing the matter before the general public, and assuring them that he believed the line would pay the men putting up the money from the start. He said that the section of the county to be traversed by the proposed route had much more to offer in the way of established farms and industries than had the line followed by the Oregon Water Power and Railway Company from Oregon City to Portland. He said the Clackamas section is one of the richest farming spots in the county and the motor line would have a large and rich tributary country to draw traffic from. Moreover this business was already established and could be counted on from the first. The speaker believed that such a railway as is proposed could not help but be a benefit to East Oregon City and the adjacent country, for it was quite likely that the new road would not stop there, but would go on out towards Molalla and Willott.

His remarks were carefully listened to by those present. Mr. John Lewellen was made chairman of the meeting and O. D. Eby, secretary. On motion a committee consisting of John Lewellen, O. D. Eby, F. M. Darling, R. Koerner, D. C. Ely and E. W. Randolph, was appointed to gather statistics as to the amount of traffic the new road could reasonably expect in the vicinity of East Oregon City. Other committees are at work collecting the facts as to the business which would be offered to the new road by the residents of the remainder of the territory along its projected route. Among other things, a careful census is to be taken of the country immediately tributary to Clackamas, and those urging the building of the line hope to in this way arrive at the actual facts in the case, so that they will be ready to show capitalists what the road could depend on from their section of the country. As soon as these figures are collected and verified, the promoters of the movement will try to interest capitalists and induce them to build the motor line. In fact they claim that so soon as the real facts of the situation are known and the richness of the country is shown, urging will not be necessary to secure an electric railway, thus giving a neglected section of the county better transportation to the markets.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Report of Condition of Crops Through-
out the Willamette Valley.

The past week has been dry, with cool nights and warm afternoons. Pasture, potatoes and gardens need rain badly, but corn and hops are standing the dry weather better than expected. The grain harvest is drawing to a close, and most of the wheat in the Willamette valley and in southern Oregon has been cut and thrashed. Fall wheat and barley yields are generally above the average. Spring wheat and oats are below the average in quantity, but above the average in quality.

Hops are doing well and the vines are free of vermin. Picking will begin in the early yards within two weeks. It

is hard to judge the size of the crop on account of the increased acreage, but individual yards generally will not produce as abundantly as they did last year.

Corn is doing remarkably well and the ears promise to be large and well filled. Without rain soon potatoes will be a poor crop. Apples in some localities have dropped badly, but the crop is still good. Peaches, plums and blackberries are plentiful in the market.

File Notice of Lien.

On the last of last week, a notice of a mechanic's lien was filed in the county court by J. G. and F. Cummings, who allege they have a claim on property in West Gladstone owned by C. W. and Alta Parrish. It is claimed that lumber, for the construction of a house in West Gladstone was furnished to Parrish, for which he has never paid. This amounts to \$78. A lien is held on both the house and lots upon which it stands.

Mayor Dimick Officiates.

Robert Wilbur and Igna Hogli, both of this county, were married in the office of Mayor Dimick on Thursday, the city executive officiating. They will make their future home in Astoria.

TAKE TEACHERS' EXAMINATION.

Large Number Of New Schoolteachers
Secure Certificates.

As a result of the regular semi-annual examination of applicants for teachers' certificates held this month by Superintendent Zinser, about 30 new teachers have been added to the teaching force of Clackamas County. There were 40 applicants for county papers, and 9 for state papers. Among the county list there were 10 failures. There were only 4 men among the large class taking the examination. The papers of those approved for state certificates have been forwarded to the state examining board at Salem. Those successful in the county examination were:

First Grade, J. G. Noe, Hubbard; Allen M. Shannon, Oregon City; Lillian Downs, Boring; Evelyn Olson, Willamette; Marion Harrington, Portland; Annie J. Young, Milwaukie; Alice E. Ritter, Aurora. Second Grade, Percy J. Ritter, Aurora; Grace Troyer, Woodburn; Lillian Jones, Brooks; Minnie Trullinger, Molino; Wilma Blair, Hubbard; Mary P. Anderson, Portland; Nellie Naylor, Portland; May Frey, Portland; Nellie Armstrong, Portland; W. H. Blood, Park Place; Roma Stafford, Oregon City; Carrie E. Stokes, Oswego; Edie Grace, Clarks; Hattie A. Fisher, Mt. Labor; William M. Wood, Eagle Creek; Minnie Leabo, Marquam. Third Grade, Selma Rodun, Gresham; Ella Hornshuh, Shubel; Agnes Hartnell, Clackamas; Ada Wakefield, Aimes; Victoria Wilson, Gresham; Agnes Reiling, Park Place.

READY FOR HOP-PICKING.

Important Clackamas Crop Ripe For
Harvesting.

From various parts of the county comes the news that hops are ripe and picking will commence next week in some yards. Although the crop is short in places because of the long continued drouth, suffered during the summer and early spring, the quality of the crop in this county will be excellent. Some yards will not suffer any shortage from the long dry spell.

Two hop contracts, which were executed in June of this year, were filed with the County Recorder on Wednesday of this week. They were contracts whereby A. M. Scott, of Monitor, and Joseph Johnson, of Needy, agree to deliver to Louis Lachmund & Company 5000 pounds each from their respective yards. The price to be paid is 17 cents per pound. Sufficient money to pay the expenses of picking and curing the crop is stipulated to be paid to the hop growers.

Christian Zimmerman, a prominent hop grower of Aurora, was in the city on Tuesday and states that his hops will be of even better quality than last year, while the yield promises to be fully as large. As he harvested 800 boxes per acre from his yard last season, there will be money in hops for Mr. Zimmerman this year. He says he lately refused an offer of 25 cents per pound for this year's crop.

Sues For Money Due.

Suit was filed in the Justice court Tuesday against Chas. Reed by attorneys for W. L. Block and I. Selling, it being alleged that the former sold the defendant goods amounting to \$5 and the latter \$12, all of which was still unpaid though overdue.

CENTER STREET NOW MODERN

Important Piece of Roadmaking
Has Been Completed.

IMPROVEMENT COST \$7247

New Thoroughfare Connects
With the South End Road
and Will Furnish Easy
Entrance to City.

With the completion of the Center street improvement and its acceptance by the city council this week, another modern thoroughfare has been added to Oregon City's streets. The new street adds much to the appearance and convenience of that part of Oregon City lying on the hill. Since the commencement of the improvement a number of new houses have been built on Center street, and several are now under construction. This shows how the improvement of the city's streets stimulates the erection of residences.

The total cost of the improvement of Center street was \$7247.08, the final payment of which was ordered paid to Contractors Jones & McKay, who had the contract for the work, at the special meeting of the council this week. In addition to this there will be a few incidentals, such as the cost of inspection of the street, etc. Messrs. Jones & McKay have done good work on the street, in some instances even doing more than was required in their contract with the city to make their work the most effective. It was later decided to improve Center street one block south of the regular Center street improvement, at an additional cost of \$1440.66. This will make a connection with the South End Road, and when that shall be attained, many entering the city with teams will come by way of Center street.

The distance from Seventh to First street on Center has been graded and

covered with crushed rock, the depth of the rock being 12 inches at the center of the street and tapering to a depth of half that at the sides. An innovation in street engineering in this city has been made by grading the street up in the Center considerably higher than on the edges. Sewer and water mains were already laid on the street before the improvement took place, and 6-inch drain tiles have been placed at each curb, connecting with the sewer.

New sidewalks 6 feet in width have been placed along the six blocks improved, with crossings. After the crushed rock was put on, the street was thoroughly rolled with the county's new steam road roller, the first street in the city to be so treated. One day was spent with the roller upon each block of roadway. The improvement was designed by City Engineer E. P. Rands, and the work superintended by him until his departure for Idaho on a surveying trip, when H. A. Rands took charge of the looking after the interests of the city in regard to the street. Frank Glennon was the inspector of the improvement.

Center street is now only second to Seventh street, which has had the distinction of being the only thoroughly modern street in the city.

Two Are Deserters.

A divorce action was filed in the Circuit Court Monday by William H. Heyser who seeks divorce from Lidle G. Heyser on the ground of desertion. He alleges that the two were married in New York City in December, 1899, and that in September, 1903, the wife willfully deserted him without cause or provocation and has since continued to live apart from him. He asks to be allowed the custody of a minor child.

A short union was that joining W. A. Haskins and Estella N. Haskins, for three months after the marriage, the wife deserted her husband. At least these are the allegations in a complaint filed here Monday, wherein the husband asks to be released from the bonds of matrimony. The two are said to have been married in this state in May '03, and in August, '03 the wife is charged with wilful desertion.

Small Wreck on Railroad.

Two freight engines were brought through town on Monday, they being taken to the shops at Portland for repairs after having gone through a collision at Aurora Monday morning. No special injury was done by the wreck, although the engines were considerably damaged about the pilot.

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