

TOMORROW IS BOOSTER DAY.

Thousands of People will Celebrate Here.

BIG PROGRAM OF EVENTS ON.

Street Parade, Horse Show, Balloon Ascension, etc.

Tomorrow will be a day of continuous vaudeville in this city, with something on the program every minute from 9:00 a. m. until after the dance in the evening.

There will not be a dull minute in the day. The program is full, it is free to all, and if the city is not packed full of people from Clackamas county, even it will be because attractions have ceased to draw.

There is a big street parade planned to start things off, in which the horses entered for the horse show will take part; there is a balloon ascension down for a big drawing card; high swing nose and slide-for-life stunt; brass bands to make you feel frisky; a horse show with \$200 in premiums, and it is given out that one of the Miller Amusement Co.'s men will make the jump from the suspension bridge into the Willamette.

Secretary Lazelle says the horse entries are rolling in, that the big booster day has been widely advertised, and that nothing but rain can keep the crowd away Saturday.

Take a day off, forget that you have a care in the world, come to Oregon City and be boys and girls again for a day. A hundred years from now you will never know the difference, and it's great fun to mix it once in awhile.

The festivities on Booster Day, Saturday, April 22nd, will begin with a balloon ascension at 9 a. m. All of our neighbors who expect to attend should come early. Programs of the events of the day may be secured at any of the stores. Among the men who have entered horses for the horse show are Wm. Krenger, Oregon City; W. W. Irwin, Aurora; S. Bailey, Clairmont; A. J. Marrs, Mount Pleasant; Moffatt & Parker, Oregon City; E. M. Gerber, Logan; George Lazelle, Twilight; Wm. Robinson, West Oregon City; Ernst Maas, Oregon City; Arthur Funk, Oregon City; W. J. Wilson, Oregon City; Bradley Woodward, Oregon City; Orlando Romig, Canby; Dan Lyons, Oregon City; besides many Portland men. S. E. Kramer is to be the judge. From all prospects this will be the largest and best horse show held in the Willamette this year.

The parade will take place promptly at 10:30 a. m. and the judging of the horses will take place immediately afterward.

HE FINDS GOATS MORE PROFITABLE

Mayor Brownell Thinks Them Safer Than Politics.

George C. Brownell, of Oregon City, is doing his part to support the dairy industry of the state by importing and breeding Toggenburg goats. He now has six head of this breed and is very much pleased with them. Their milk is used in the family with entire satisfaction, being rich, easily digested and of fine flavor.—Rural Spirit.

Doubtless George C. is thriving on goats milk better than he did doing Oregon politics at Salem during the various sessions of the legislature, in the days gone by, for he always asserted that playing politics was a losing game for him.—Newberg Graphic.

Thousands of Children Parade.

An elaborate historical street pageant in which thousands of public school children will take part is one of the brilliant features being planned for the next annual Portland Rose Festival, to take place the week of June 5-10. Portland's school children are famous the country over for their exquisite maneuvers and drill work in parades. This big pageantry will cover the history of the Oregon country since the coming of the white man.

SCHUBEL'S AUTO TURNS DOWN THE EMBANKMENT

Machine Balks at Drinking Water and Scoots Passengers.

Quite a serious accident occurred Sunday afternoon when the automobile belonging to Attorney Chris Schubel of this city, which was being driven by Mr. Lee Bequest of Portland, plunged down an embankment, and turned completely over, upsetting the occupants. The two little Schubel girls, Roberta and Ruth, fell free of the machine, but Mr. Bequest, Miss Enallic Schubel and Clyde Schubel were caught beneath, and were unable to get out, but luckily a car that was following them at a short distance, witnessed the accident, and came to their assistance. The car was slightly damaged but the occupants were lucky enough to escape with a few bruises and slight scratches.

The Oregon Agricultural College will have charge of the experiment farm now being put in shape alongside the West Stayton depot. Ten acres has already been set to various crops to demonstrate what irrigation in summer will accomplish.

DEPUTY STIPP RESIGNS OFFICE. Can't Give Work Justice for Meagre Salary.

THE STATE PAYS BUT \$41.66

Governor West Vetoes Law to Increase the Pay.

The resignation of Livy Stipp as deputy district attorney was somewhat of a surprise to the people of this county when the matter was made public the first of the week, but when the reasons for the resignation are considered, few if any can blame him.

Mr. Stipp refuses to make bricks without straw—that's about the substance of it.—He refuses to do the constantly growing work and assume the responsibilities for \$41.66 per month.

In his letter of resignation to the governor, Mr. Stipp points out that the work is monthly increasing; that it takes a deputy's whole time to give it the attention that it deserves; that there is no allowance for expenses, and that an official cannot give the work the attention it should have for the meagre salary of \$41.66 per month, hence his resignation.

And in this connection we want to state right here that the salaries of public officials in the state of Oregon are shamefully low and that the meagre pay simply puts a premium on graft and invites dishonesty. A man with ability and honesty won't take such offices, as a general rule and the matter resolves itself to a call for patriots, or an invitation for the rascals who put their hands behind them to step in and graft. And no man should know this condition better than Governor West, who vetoed a bill, passed by the last legislature, raising the deputy's salary to \$75 a month.

Mr. and Mrs. McLarty Surprised

Mr. and Mrs. William McLarty were pleasantly surprised Monday evening at their home on Washington street by a number of their friends. A very enjoyable evening was spent in conversation and music. Dainty refreshments were served. The following were present: Mr. and Mrs. Harry Caldwell; Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Noble; Mr. and Mrs. William McLarty; Mrs. Martin, Misses Ivy Roake, Lena Chamberlain, Martha McLarty, Messrs. Carl Francis, William Kennedy, Hugh Kennedy, A. Tresso, Jno Crawford, J. Johnson, H. Baker, and Sammy McLarty.

A LITTLE ANCIENT HISTORY.

Oregon City Water Power 82 Years Ago.

John Minto of Salem had the following communication in the Oregonian, which will interest old timers of our city:

The writer reads with interest of investors seeking to use the water power at Oregon City 82 years after the city was taken as a city and 30 years after the west bank opposite was occupied. It was as early as 1845 when first contention for riparian rights covering the falls seemed to be settled, under the construction of riparian rights given in "Blackstone," a copy of which was in possession of J. W. Nesmith, then constructing flumes to the mills of the east bank for the owner, Dr. John Mongolian.

There was no United States law here then and bitter sorrows if not dramatic deaths resulted from the contentions for the water power then going to waste at Oregon City. Since then Oregon courts have decided, in favor of the water power, and the water power is still great quantities of water power in Oregon yet unused. There is a fall for 40 miles of the Santiam river running unused above Mill City the first 20 miles of which has railroad service. In this distance there is 175,000 horsepower running unused and a large part is attainable at the state land office.

Though waterpower may be generally taken and highly prized, near the present city and towns of Oregon there are still great quantities of water power in Oregon yet unused. There is a fall for 40 miles of the Santiam river running unused above Mill City the first 20 miles of which has railroad service. In this distance there is 175,000 horsepower running unused and a large part is attainable at the state land office.

WANT TO MAKE TEST.

Drillers are Confident There is Oil or Gas Here.

Mr. Rivers of the oil drilling firm of Rivers & McGregor, was in town the first of the week. He is interested in the project of forming a company to put down test wells at Molalla, Stafford, Gladstone and Highland. They are now drilling on the McBride tract.

Mr. Rivers says he is positive that there is oil or gas in this county, and it is but a matter of getting it, and he believes the best way to do it is to take a chance with him in making a thorough test of this part of the county.

ST. PAUL'S PARISH ELECT VESTRYMEN

Will Erect New Church in Near Future on River Bank.

Monday evening the annual meeting of the vestry men of St. Paul's Episcopal church took place. Much important business was transacted, and the reports from the different organizations of the church showed the church affairs to be in a fine condition. The following were elected as vestry men for this year: John Humphreys, E. A. Chapman, F. T. Barlow, Dr. L. A. Morris, Carl Joehnk, V. Harris, and C. W. Evans. The King's Daughters also held a meeting Monday afternoon at the home of Mrs. L. A. Morris, and the officers elected were as follows: President, Miss Mollie Holmes; vice-president, Mrs. T. P. Randall; secretary, Miss Alice Lewthwaite; treasurer, Mrs. L. A. Morris.

The Woman's Guild met Monday afternoon and elected the following officers: President, Mrs. Geo. Harding; vice-president, Mrs. Thos. Warner; secretary, Mrs. John Humphreys; treasurer, Mrs. Rosina Fouts. The reports from both of these organizations were favorably received at the parish meeting.

COMMERCIAL CLUB GIVES ANNUAL LOVE FEAST

The third annual banquet of the Oregon City Commercial Club was the principal attraction of the week's events and occurred Wednesday evening in the banquet hall of the Masonic building. A large number of gentlemen were present to enjoy the good program of speeches.

J. E. Hodges, president of the Commercial Club, was toastmaster. The speakers were Hon. Thomas F. Ryan, first assistant to the state treasurer, of Salem; C. C. Chapman, of the Portland Commercial Club; Colonel Robert A. Miller, of Portland; Gilbert H. Hodges, and City School Superintendent F. J. Toomey.

The toastmaster read a letter from Judge T. A. McBride, stating his inability to attend the banquet on account of illness.

Judge Ryan gave an interesting talk in favor of extending the boundaries of the city and urged the construction of hard surfaced streets.

Mr. Chapman talked along the booster line, showing what is being done by the Commercial Club at Portland and other places. Colonel Miller and Mr. Toomey gave interesting talks urging the stimulation of a community spirit and an educational discourse.

Gilbert Hodges gave a spicy talk and gave his line-up for an Oregon City baseball team, his aggregation being a line-up of prominent citizens.

Tuesday evening the Epworth League of the Methodist church met in the church parlors. Much important business was transacted. The following delegates were selected to attend the convention which will be held in Forest Grove, on May 5th, 6th and 7th: Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Cox, and Miss Elva Blanchard and Miss Monteta Hickman. Mr. Will Saldow, who is the vice president of the district, will make a talk on May 6th at the convention.

BETTER SLOW THAN SORRY.

The Lighting Franchise Has Loose Spokes.

SEEMS TO BIND ONLY THE CITY

More Definite Provisions Should be Insisted On.

The Courier editor didn't take hold of this paper to start something; he didn't come here to turn things over, start rows or disturb things in any way, but he does believe that public matters should be open to public discussion, and criticism if necessary. And with only the best interests of all concerned, we ask you to take this article down the line. If we are in wrong, show us, and we will cheerfully back up.

April 13 there was held a special meeting of the city council here, and an ordinance granting a twenty-five year franchise to A. L. Beattie, his heirs and assigns, had its first reading.

The franchise, if passed, gives away a right to "erect, maintain and operate an illuminating gas plant in Oregon City."

Now there are few people in this city who would have any objections to a gas plant being installed. Competition in matters of heat, light, power and water are mighty good assets for any city, but—

There are three provisions in the proposed franchise that need a little thinking over, and any man who owns a bit of property in the city, or who has the city's future welfare in view, should think this over, for it is a mighty lot better to be careful than to be sorry.

Franchisees are sometimes very valuable—also binding. It is the giving away to private concerns the rights that are really owned by the people of this city.

You all know of too many cases where franchisees were a stream of gold have been carelessly given away to men who did not scratch their heads over the provisions quite long enough.

The present franchise would grant the promoters one year and a half to BEGIN the work of installation and for does not fix a specified time for its completion.

Now it would seem that this is too long a limit for a city franchise to be tied up, and even after this date there is no certainty nor anything binding that the work shall be done. It simply ties the city up for a year and a half. It simply means the granting of a free option for that time, and if at the expiration the promoters do not go ahead, the franchise is null, and the city out the work and expense of installation, etc.

If the franchise is of value, hadn't there better be a little default bond tacked on? What do you think about it?

Another condition is that for the first ten years the franchise shall "not be compelled to pay for the city's use of the lights and privileges."

This may be only fair and full justice to the men who put their money into the undertaking, and then again it may be a right to a gold mine. There are few of us who know anything about the expenses and receipts of a lighting plant, and it would seem to be only a square deal that a provision should be provided regulating this point on the amount of business done, on the net receipts of the business. Should it develop into a big investment before the expiration of the ten years, should not the city have some return for the opportunity freely given to the promoters?

And here is one more, and the real loose one. Section 8 reads:

"The said grantee, his heirs or assigns shall furnish to the City of Oregon City, upon request, such lighting service as the said city may require, and at a reasonable cost therefor."

AT A REASONABLE COST. What is a reasonable cost? Who is to determine it?

Don't you believe a MAXIMUM price should be stated, and the promoters be bound to it by annulment of the franchise? Don't you believe they should be absolutely bound not to exceed a certain price?

Within the past year the writer saw an instance of one of these elastic franchises. A natural gas company wanted a free franchise that went from under the ground to the blue sky, and they agreed to be bound to furnish gas at a "reasonable rate." But before it went through, the people came to and insisted that the company be made to define the elastic term and tie up to it. The company did define, and while they were at it they slipped in a joker that will be a serious joke for fifty years to come. They agreed to furnish gas at a very reasonable price (at the start) and had a maximum rate fixed that they could not ever go above.

The joke was that the high rate reached to the clouds, and as soon as the little city was thoroughly piped and the houses piped, then the rate jumped to the limit—where it will stay as long as the franchise owners can buy off competition.

It would seem that the promoters of the proposed lighting system should know their business, know what they can do, and what to expect in this city. If so, they know what rate they can offer, and they should offer it and make it binding before a franchise is ever given them. Property owners have a right to know, before the service is installed, just what that service is going to cost them—this year and every year.

Some of you will argue that competition will regulate this, that the new company will have to meet present prices for electric lights, etc. Very well, but wouldn't a franchise

WANT MORE HITCHING ROOM.

Farmer Says the Lack Drives Trade to Portland.

A small matter, but one of considerable importance to business interests, was brought to the attention of the Courier last week, when a farmer who lives east of Astoria came to the office and asked us to take up the matter of more hitching room for farmers' horses.

This man stated that because of this little oversight any amount of trade that would naturally come to this city goes to Portland; that it is often impossible to find a place to hitch a horse; that because of this a woman will not drive her rig here to trade, and a result is that the family waits and goes to Portland.

This is something our business men should set after and remedy at once.

There are any number of side streets where iron hitching frames could be put in, and they should be put in. The business places here want the family trade, and a little matter like this should never keep any portion of it away.

It can be readily seen that with street cars running here every few minutes, with a scarcity of hitching posts, the ladies think twice about driving in with a horse that may be afraid of cars and autos. It is up to the business men to look after this matter.

WILLAMETTE CHAUTAUQUA WILL OPEN JULY FOURTH

Great Summer School Holds up Brightest Season for 1911

The fourth of July is the date set for the opening of the Willamette Valley Chautauqua Association, preparations being made for a big celebration. Ex-Governor Richard Yates, of Illinois, son of the war Governor, will deliver the address at the opening. Gabriel Arm Maguire, the first man who ascended Crocker River after Stanley came down will deliver his famous lecture, "With an Irishman in Darkest Africa." Mr. Maguire is an Irishman, six feet four inches tall, weighs 250 pounds, and is as big mentally as he is physically. At a missionary meeting in New York City, after his address, over one hundred thousand dollars was raised for missions. The Association has arranged for sports of various kinds for the Fourth, and a big time is expected.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC WILL DOUBLE TRACK TO PORT.

Construction of Temporary Over-Head on 12th Street.

Three representatives of the Southern Pacific railroad were here Monday, in consultation with members of the city council regarding the elevated railroad crossing on Twelfth street.

The company gives it out that it is the plan of the railroad company to double track the Southern Pacific around these corners which has been put in a temporary overhead structure, that will suffice until the work of double tracking is done. They claim that a steel span with the abutments would cost from \$25,000 to \$30,000, and that it would be practically a dead loss when they built the second track.

The company has agreed to make certain definite assurances to the city of just what it will do when the final work is on, and what it will do for temporary work at Twelfth street, and when such assurances are put in binding form the city council will decide the matter.

It has long been rumored that the Southern Pacific would double track some day, but "some day" is a very indefinite term with a railroad corporation. Just when they will commence the work only they know—and they won't tell. But there is little doubt but it will eventually be done.

Following is the calendar for civil actions: April 18, Brice vs. McCormick; April 19, Leach vs. Norton; April 20, Merwin vs. Dove; April 21, Associated Creditors vs. Mrs. Inman; April 22, Ellis vs. Kitzmiller; April 24, Day vs. Brown; April 25, Matley vs. Jones; April 27, Gardner and Reynolds vs. Wolfe; May 11, Reed vs. Mayor Reed et al.; May 2, Horger vs. Preston; May 3, Guttridge vs. Guttridge; May 4, Gordon vs. Berg.

The Beebe murder case has been investigated by the grand jury this week.

provision be a little more binding? And did you ever hear of a case of combination of two companies holding up prices—sometimes defined as a collusion?

As stated at the beginning, we may not have the right end of this argument. If wrong, show us.

You know the men who ask for this franchise far better than the writer. Often a city has got the best of a loose contract, but more often it has got what Uncle Tom got in the last act.

We would be glad to hear from anyone on this matter.

TO FOLLOW TRAIL OF EASTERN CITY

School Buildings Will be Rendezvous

SCHOOL BOARD APPROVE PLAN

Talk by Mrs. Dye Starts Move to Occupy Assembly Halls at Unoccupied Hours.

The key note for popular entertainment was struck in this city last Thursday afternoon, when Mrs. Eva Emery Dye spoke before the Womens' Club in the Commercial Club parlors, there being also present a number of citizens and members of the school board.

Mrs. Dye began by speaking of the Rochester system of social centers started four years ago. The good effect was instantaneous and phenomenal. The public school buildings were opened evenings and Sunday afternoons for the free use of the people for clubs, debates, discussions, neighborhood meetings and singing. The assembly rooms were equipped for basket ball, gymnasiums and used Friday nights for popular lectures, concerts and stereoscopic exhibitions. All these activities are under the direction of the school board.

One member of the board said, "This is a great discovery, to find that we have a beautiful club house, built and paid for, belonging to all of us, and all ready for use." Another said, "It just means for the people to get their money's worth out of their own property."

This new plan incurred a little additional expense for a door and hall-keeper to prevent disorder and running about the entrance in the halls, and to serve also as an information bureau to direct the crowds to the departments they wished to visit. It was like our Chautauqua, with a dozen classes going on all at once, attended by men and women, clerks, young people who work through the day and have no other opportunity for social and educational recreation. Here a department is fitted for athletics and gymnastic exercise, there another for the study of art, or cooking or sewing.

Jacob Rillig said Wednesday night that boys' clubs are better than policemen's clubs, and cheaper. So all sorts of boys' clubs meet in the various rooms, each under a proper director hired to conduct their work; in other rooms girls' clubs and women's clubs discuss any subject in which they are interested. Three nights in the week the men and boys use the gymnasiums and two nights are given to the girls and women.

A certain merchant stopped a director on the street to say, "This Social Center has accomplished what I regarded as impossible. I have been here nine years and during that time there has been a gang of toughs around these corners which has been a continual nuisance. This winter the gang has disappeared."

"They aren't a gang any more," answered the director, "they are a debating club."

And one of those boys himself said, "How can you expect boys to grow up into good citizens when they are nothing but the training of the street-cornerers?"

The girls have a Shakespeare club and present little plays. The school grounds are fitted up for play—actual play—and special teachers show them how to play, during the pleasant summer days when many children have no places to play. Vacation schools are conducted in the buildings, so that practically all the year round the people are getting their money's worth out of the thousands invested in school buildings.

America has a billion dollars invested in school houses that lie idle almost three-fourths of the time. The question once came up at Rochester, "Can you use your school assembly hall for political meetings?" The State Superintendent of public instruction said no, but the matter was thrashed out until the unanimous decision was "The school houses are the real places for political meetings, not for one party, but for all."

"Why," said one speaker, "should I be compelled to go into a barroom to address a political meeting, where the bartender is using me to advertise his beer? Why should I be compelled to go into smoke-filled rooms to talk on political issues when we have buildings like this paid for by the people?"

The country school houses are used for political discussion, why not the town buildings for the larger education of all the people? Rochester decided they might, that the school house was the place "to talk about the things that ought to be talked about." Professor Charles Zeublin went over there to see what was going on, and he said, "Rochester is a home of free speech. Here you can discuss anything you wish in your public school buildings."

Continued on page 8

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