

The Farmers Society of Equity is spreading over this county and the Courier is spreading with it. Its advertising columns are good as gold.

# OREGON CITY COURIER

Clackamas County Fair  
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Canby, Oregon

30th YEAR.

OREGON CITY, ORE., FRIDAY, APR. 4 1913.

No. 547

## CONFUSIONS THAT APPEAR STRANGE

TIME AND PURPOSE OF MASS MEETING MISSTATED  
NOT CALLED FOR RATIFICATION

Not WHERE the Money goes But WHY is Question

Oregon City, Ore., March 31.— Next Saturday investigation will be made to determine whether Clackamas county can announce herself as one of the very few counties in the state which is out of debt.

The above item was sent out from Oregon City to the Journal.

About four hundred Clackamas county voters and taxpayers called a public mass meeting for an entirely different purpose.

It wasn't exactly a "ratification" meeting these voters called for.

It wasn't to investigate whether this county could tax itself out of debt, and the readers will wonder WHY such misleading dispatches are sent out.

PERHAPS some of the men who move the checkers in this county recall the meeting at the Commercial Club last summer to "protest" against the Southern Pacific building a double track main line on the west side, and which resulted in a ratification meeting and a vote of thanks to the promoters.

But Saturday's meeting can't be flip-flopped in this way. There is too much protest behind it.

And here's another:

A mass meeting of citizens has been called for next Saturday night in this city to investigate the County Court and other county offices. All the officers are ready for the investigation and the fact that the county will soon be out of debt for the first time in its existence should interest the taxpayers.—Morning Enterprise.

The above, please observe, says the meeting is called for Saturday NIGHT.

Just a little bit strange that this confusion of the time should be printed the same week of the meeting.

Four hundred men have called the meeting for SATURDAY AFTER-NOON, in Woodmen hall, near Adam's store, at 2 P. M. The farmers who have called it could hardly attend AT NIGHT.

Funny how such a mistake WILL happen.

The Enterprise says the county court is ready for investigation.

Haven't the least doubt of it, for the court at once got busy, after the mass meeting was called and put Mr. Hackett to investigating, no doubt in order to be prepared to tell the mass meeting the court had anticipated their wants, present the "expiring," have a handy man start the cheering and some one move to adjourn.

And it might be in order to pass a vote of thanks to and confidence in the court for worthy work well done.

But I have an idea the fellows have something else on their minds and up their sleeves. I have an idea they don't care so much to know WHERE the county funds went as WHY.

A fellow said Tuesday:

"That meeting will have about as much result as the Kansas prayer meeting for rain last summer. Some one will propose three cheers for a county out of debt, and then there goes your mass meeting."

Well, perhaps the men who are asking to know about private bridge building contracts, private timber cruising contracts, about road fund expenditures, and several other matters can be stamped with a big hurrah and a little red fire, but the Courier doesn't believe it. The men of Clackamas county have too much of a reputation as fighters. The farmers of this county have sand, a heap more than Oregon City's residents can boast of, and it is the Courier's guess they are coming to Oregon City Saturday afternoon for a purpose.

"County will soon be out of debt" the big headlines tell us.

Well, why shouldn't it?

New York city owes about as much as the government and it could be out of debt in six months if it taxed heavy enough.

We have a road tax alone of eight mills on an assessment of \$28,000,000 and collect a tax of \$24,000,000. This is a greater sum than used to be levied for county, state and municipal taxes.

No matter what the debts or expenses, the county can keep out of debt IF IT TAXES ENOUGH.

What the fellows want to know is if the enormous taxes and big expenses are NECESSARY.

And I have an idea fully as much time and attention will be given to these matters as to the motion that a committee be appointed to investigate the necessity of having an investigator or investigate the county's books.

If the county expenditures have been needed and legal; if they have been economical and with an eye single to the county's best welfare, then will this meeting have been called in vain, and then will the Courier do the meek and lowly stunt; then will the taxpayers go home and frame things up to put the county court

back for the long term and peace and contentment will settle over the county as thick as a Scotch mist.

And if NOT—then look out for the cars.

## WHEN DREAMS COME TRUE

A Remedy That Will be Ready for Our Grandchildren

Editor Courier:— Were it not for the fact that all the practical farmers live in the city this farm savage would not attempt to butt into city affairs.

As matters stand I must go to the defense of the city council in regard to the matter of stopping the kids from roller skating on the sidewalks.

While it is true a noted man invited the children to come onto him he did not tell them to come to him on roller skates, besides that it is not likely he had any nice houses to rent.

It seems to me the council is farsighted and intends to put up a fine, artistic pavilion for the kids to skate in and employ men and women to look after them, teach them and in case of accident be on hand to give relief.

No doubt a good architect will be employed to work out a plan, so the same pavilion can be used for picture shows at public expense, which would provide clean, wholesome entertainment. You see, Mr. Editor, the childless would help to provide for the public good.

The hall would be large enough so it could hold everyone who would care to attend religious services and open to all regardless of creeds.

Then a fine gymnasium would also be added, in charge of a competent instructor, and perhaps some other hall where other meetings could be held, so that when the Equity or other organizations wanted to meet, the Goddess of Justice would not be attacked by a gripping pain.

There are so many things this spacious public building could be used for. Really I think it would be better for you to turn the shop over to the "devil" I mean the printers' devil for a few hours and interview the city council if that is their plan. That would keep the kids off the streets. That is what I think.

STARK.

## MATTERS TO LOOK INTO

Writer Suggests Two Propositions that do not Look Right

Portland, April 1, 1913.

Mr. Brown:— As I cannot be in Oregon City Saturday I ask you to bring the following two items to the notice of the meeting:

One is that in a road district north of Willamette, the farmers voted a special tax for road improvement. The county court stopped work on it when the appropriated funds were not much more than half used, according to the statement of a true-speaking citizen of that locality. Perhaps only the county court knows where the rest of that money went to. I spoke to another resident of Willamette about it and he told me substantially the same. I hope somebody will make an inquiry into the matter.

The other item is to testify that according to my own observation and the admission of the county recorder himself the employees of his office, aside from their two week's vacation on pay, occasionally absent themselves from work for several days or a week without the least deduction from their salaries. The injustice of this must be apparent to all who must work for what they get, especially to the taxpayers, considering that a week's absence of each one robs the county of at least \$20.

The practice is the more to be condemned in view of the evil influence must have on the young who see that the courthouse, which should be a place of justice above all others, money can be had for nothing at the expense of the taxpayers.

A remedy for this perhaps might be to let them work by the day.

A. BRANZEN.

Dr. J. W. Norris Resigns

Dr. J. W. Norris, for many years health officer of this county, has resigned, and the county court will appoint a man for the vacancy.

Some Day.

It is only a question of time until storage batteries will furnish power for street cars and the unsightly wires will be relegated to the junk heap.—Contra Costa, Richmond, Col.

And when that time comes the thousands of horse power that goes to waste over the falls here eight months of the year will be bottled up and made to turn the wheels of many more factories. But Edison is getting old.

Hunting for a Nail.

The Courier asked E. T. McBain how the ship canal red tape was un-winding and he replied the last he heard was that a nail lost in the Linn City flood thirty years ago was being hunted.

Two straight years since Congress and the state appropriated \$750,000 for this work, and not a move yet. Such useless delays as this is what hurts. Some of these days when some big project comes up the people will point to this fool doings and back up on it. Business men would have put this through in 60 days.

Governor West ought to go after this joke and see what the trouble is.

Miss Rosa Mulvany of Union Mills, visited friends in Oregon City Thursday.

## MAY COST THIS COUNTY \$75,000

SAYS ROBERT SCHUEBEL OF THE TIMBER CRUISING DEAL

TIME FOR MEN TO WAKE UP

Organize in Every School District And Be Ready When Needed

Eldorado, Ore.

Editor Courier:— Believing that I have given my share of reasons necessary to call for action of some kind by the people to protect themselves against the various grafts worked against them, I now wish to call upon the people for action.

I would suggest that we do business just the same in public matters as we do in private. If we hire a man in private life we tell him what we want done and pay him the general going wage for his work. Let us do the same thing with our legislature, if we must have one. The same with our County Court and I'll venture no such work will get thru as that timber cruise deal in this county or the various vicious legislations that we have been up against all along the line.

The timber cruise deal would not surprise me if it cost Clackamas county people one hundred thousand dollars if not stopped, and will have to be gone over and over again, if they want to know the amount of timber standing from year to year, as it will be partially logged off each year. It is a graft pure and simple and looks very much like a division between the court and the cruiser, and yet it is possible that the court has been hoodwinked and is innocent of any intended wrong. Let us find out.

The court should be glad to aid any investigation if they are innocent.

Let us organize in every school district in the county and keep a working organization that we can get together on short notice and take up any problem that confronts us.

Let us make the Courier a means of distributing our thoughts and conclusions, then occasionally meet in the Courthouse and centralize things as we agree on them and then push them. If the county judge, circuit judge or any one else offers to put us out of the courthouse, put them out. Make no bones or fuss about it but do business. Be sure you are right and then go ahead. Stop at nothing that comes in your way.

In my criticizing the legislature I did not intend this to apply very much to our members from this county as they did some good work and salary grab game and I notice Mr. Gill's conscience must trouble him some on that score as he keeps on repeating the reasons for standing in on the deal.

Now the truth is the people were not told the whole truth about Mr. Gary's salary. They were told that he gets one thousand dollars per year, and if the salary was raised he would agree to act as one of the supervisors, and so cut out of some expense that way.

The fact is that he is allowed two hundred dollars for expenses in addition to the thousand dollar salary, making virtually twelve hundred per year, also the supervisor law provides that he must act as one of the supervisors, so he is agreeing to do nothing that is not already his duty. He would be tickled to death to have a chance for the job at the old salary for any number of years at a time. Why pay more? Let us hold this up. Let the people settle it. Will some one who is willing to take the lead, form an organization in his school district, all over the county? Send in your names to the Courier and address, and it will be published, and when locally organized we can call a county meeting, and later extend to a state organization. There is nothing we could do as farmers and taxpayers that will bring better returns for our time and what little expense may be attached to such a move. Oregon can truly demonstrate that we are truly progressive; that we are advancing in the science of government the same as we are in mechanics and other sciences.

Let us hear from every school district in the county.

Count me for school district No. 102.

R. SCHUEBEL.

## ARE STARTING AT THE WRONG END

PROVIDE THE PLAYGROUND BEFORE ARRESTING CHILDREN

BOUND TO BE A CITY ROW

If This Ordinance is Enforced and Others Winked At

Eldorado, Ore.

It seems to us this rumpus of the children using the sidewalks to skate on was entirely unnecessary and that more feathers than chickens will come of it.

Here's the point: If a property owner is willing and gives the permission for the children to use the walk in front of his residence to skate on, it seems to me a man wants trouble pretty bad when he opposes this permission and would have the police pinch the youngsters.

The property owner laid that cement walk and paid for it, and so long as he is willing the children use it, it would seem a councilman is hunting for a city row when he butts in and tells both the property owner and children what they must and must not do.

If Mr. Albright doesn't want the children to skate on his walk, or if any other property owner doesn't want them to, it can be easily stopped but don't put the lid on the whole city to please one man. This isn't a one man town.

Mr. Albright proposes a playground and skating platform for the children. Good, and this paper will gladly help on any such work if presented in earnestness and the council will help it along. Whether McLaughlin park is the place there may be question, but wherever located it would be a splendid movement for a city that has absolutely no play spots for the children.

But why not provide the playground before the police are ordered to chase skating children off the walks? Why not let the children enjoy themselves as they are until a place is provided elsewhere?

These kids enjoy skating on the walks as much as Councilman Albright enjoys fishing. That they make the walks dangerous we can hardly credit. Warmly that they must give the walk to pedestrians and to keep off the parkings, these children will observe if. You can handle these little fellows very easily if you go at it right. They are not naturally mean and vicious. A little talk to them will do far more than an arrest. Let them have their little pleasures. Remember we were little tads once.

Possibly that section of the charter relating to streets and sidewalks may be construed to cover roller skating. It doesn't mention it, but we know a law is like a rubber band and it can be stretched to most any length if the stretchers desire. But suppose it DOES cover and prohibit it?

M. D. Latourette reported petitions were being circulated for hard surface Seventh and High streets, and that the Main street hard surface was up to the council.

L. Adams reported that the matter of providing hitching room for teams was under way and in good earnest and a report would be made at the next meeting.

A. L. Beattie said that the gas franchise recently granted him had been financed and that he expected Oregon City would have guess within twelve months.

An endorsement of Franklin F. Griffith to succeed B. S. Joslyn as head of the P. R. L. & P. Co., was presented and adopted.

A father who believes that his kid has a right to wiggle is going to insist that the other ordinances be literally enforced. He is going to put it up to the council that it must not discriminate between the boys and girls and the grown-ups, and we all know that when we enforce each and every city ordinance to the letter, we'll have to have an assistant city recorder and build an addition on the jail.

This business is altogether too small, too petty for men to play, and we are glad to see that most of the council members look at it as such. Let's forget it.

Qualified.

State School Superintendent L. R. Alderman was recently fed at the table of John D. Rockefeller in New York and he has just been elected superintendent of schools in Portland at an annual salary of \$4,500. Tally one more for Yamhill county—Newberg Graphic.

Look Out for the Fly Cop

It is currently reported that a "plain clothes man" is on the job in Oregon City, working with the police force. Some say he is put on by the city council and some say he is a special man under Governor West. Rumor seems to know all about him only who he is.

## LIVE WIRES WILL LOOK INTO MATTER

APPOINT COMMITTEE TO ATTEND MASS MEETING SATURDAY

STIPP WILL HEAD LIVE WIRES

Elected Main Trunk for Coming Three Months' Sessions

The Live Wires took official notice of the investigation mass meeting to be held Saturday afternoon, when at its meeting Tuesday noon Mr. Eby brought the matter up and made a motion that a committee of five be appointed to attend the meeting and report at the next meeting.

Mr. Eby stated that there had been petitions presented asking for the meeting; that charges of illegal bridge contracts had been made and newspapers had printed criticisms of timber cruising contracts let without competition; etc. He said this was a matter the Wires should take notice of. Main Trunk Stipp appointed O. D. Eby, W. A. Dimick, M. J. Brown, H. E. Cross and George Randall.

H. E. Cross also spoke on the matter and he said that he hoped that out of the meeting would be formed a Taxpayers' League of 50 or 100 men; an organization that would work for the benefit of the taxpayers, and keep in close touch with the county's expenditures, and that he intended to bring this matter before the Saturday meeting.

There were fifty men present at Tuesday's Live Wire Luncheon, when Live Wires was unanimously elected to be the Main Squeeze for the club for the next three months, with the following smaller squeezes: Trunk Line—Live Stipp; Sub Trunk—Dr. Van Brakel; Transmission Wire—E. K. Stanton; Guy Wire—E. E. Brodie; Feed Wire—Leo S. Burdon.

B. T. McBain, chairman of the Live Wire's Committee on the public education, made his report to that body Tuesday noon.

He said the council would ask for bids on one plan only, a 130 foot steel tower running straight up, then a span of 100 feet horizontal over the Southern Pacific tracks, to a landing on the bluff.

He stated there had been no plans submitted for a tunnel under the tracks and that a movement was on for an injunction against the city council; that many people thought they were contending that the tunnel plan under the tracks with a derrick laid against the bluff faces would cost less than the appropriation, while the present plan would cost more, and that the other plan would also be safer.

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OUT OF DEBT

Borrowing from Peter to Pay Paul Is the Way 'Tis Done

Editor Courier:— In this week's paper appears articles claiming that the county's indebtedness had been paid off and the county is now out of debt.

To those who know the history of the county debt this causes a smile of amusement. The facts of the case are that the present taxes have been used to pay the outstanding warrants and a great part of the present year's road work must be paid in warrants marked "not paid for want of funds."

This situation arose under Judge Dimick's administration. The county was \$40,000 in debt, (that is the general fund was behind that much) the taxes were used as in the present case

on nearly all the issues and topics of the day.

That this issue of the Courier will be the most interesting that ever went on the presses, there is no question. Each writer will sign her name to her article. They won't hide or dodge.

The issue will not be by any means along the lines of a joke. It will be business. These ladies will show you what they can do. They will show you their ideas of what an Oregon City newspaper should be.

Next week we will give full particulars, publish the committees, name the staff, and lay down the rules to govern as they will be laid down to us.

May 2—watch the Courier.

and the debt was wiped out. Then the boast was made that the county was out of debt. But it soon developed that the road fund was running behind, until about a year ago it was near \$200,000, according to the Judges own statement.

Now the cry goes up that they have paid up again and the county is now out of debt again.

Smile?

COUNTY ATTORNEY HEDGES

Appointed By Gov. West Under the Law Passed Last January

The expected came last Saturday, although not expected quite so soon when Governor West appointed Gilbert L. Hedges of this city as county attorney.

The appointment will be doubly satisfactory to the majority of people of this county for the fact that Sheriff Mass and District Attorney Tongue have not made any too good a working team, while there is no doubt that Mass and Hedges will pull together and work together and that the county will get far more efficient service.

Mr. Hedges, although a democrat, made a run in this county against Mr. Tongue last fall that was one of the election surprise parties. He carried the county by a big majority, and from the minute the law passed the legislature it was a conceded conclusion that if he wanted the appointment he could have it.

Mr. Hedges will take the office June 1, and he will start in with a sentiment behind him that will back him in every effort to bring criminals to justice and give this county a vigorous prosecution. He is well qualified; he knows the game and he'll make good.

The office carries a salary of \$2100 per year and Mr. Hedges will hold until the election of 1914, when no doubt will be the nominee to succeed himself.

AFTER BEATIE'S SCALP

Geo. Oglesby Predicts We Will Have New County Judge in 90 Days.

(Aurora Observer)

Geo. Oglesby, one of the signers of the call for the big mass meeting at Oregon City next week, was here Tuesday. He declares the farmers are up in arms over the mismanagement of county affairs and propose to find out who is responsible for it.

He predicts that Clackamas county will have a new county judge within 90 days, it being expected that Judge Beattie will be recalled. Commissioner Blair, also, it appears, is in bad with the farmers, and is likely to be recalled. The chief criticism, it seems, is out of Cameron providing the license was issued; that Cameron might go to Hades for all he cared, but he did not think the innocent partner should suffer.

Attorney Chris Schuebel then took the floor. He said it was not a matter of sympathy to decide on, but simply a question of obeying the law. He reviewed the violations and the city council's action, and read the charter and Lord's law which plainly showed their duty; that on December 5 the council revoked a license and the 7th called a special meeting and expurged from the records its act of the 5th; that such action was absolutely illegal and prohibited by the charter's provisions; council has no right to re-issue a license after a law violation as the violation annuls the license, and he quoted supreme court decisions to sustain this, when selling to a minor the court ordered the license revoked; that council could not grant such a license. He urged the council to abide by the law, and said that if they did it would not be necessary to revoke licenses or hire plain clothes men.

The farmers also feel that it is an outrage that they were not allowed the use of the courthouse for the farmers' meetings.

Such matters as this the people want to know about and will ask to have explained—these and many more that will probably bob up.

E. D. Olds says he has a few things on his mind that have never been satisfactorily explained and that with the permission of the meeting he will ask them.

There are several farmers who have telephoned this office that they are laboring under some transaction they could never just understand, and which they would like enlightenment on.

The meeting promises to be interesting.

It Has the Bottom.

Portland is the only other city in Oregon that comes anywhere near Oregon City for mills and payrolls.

With our water power assets and our mile of mills we should be a city of 20,000.

Some cities buy their industries. They put up big money for "inducements" to get the mills. Later on a careless match sends a factory up in smoke. Some other town then "induces" it to rebuild there, and it goes.

Real estate then slumps one-half in value and the town starts down the chute.

But you can't burn up a great waterfall. A factory may go tomorrow and one will grab for its place the next day. Cheap water power is a wonderful inducement in Oregon.

And one builds pretty solid in this city. Flurries in real estate may come and go here the same as in any city, but the bottom will never drop out.

I would like to see the man who ever bought real estate at its market value and held it a year or two who did not make money on it if he sold it at its market price.

This is a good old, sure old, happy old city to live in.

Character Besmirchers

It is unfortunate that the attempt to besmirch the characters of our county officials was started by men who have failed to bury their personal grudges in the sea of general efficiency—Enterprise.

The county court must have a lot of personal grudges when 400 men ask for the investigation.

And do you 400 like the charge that you are doing this to besmirch characters?

Can any man oppose a call to ask for investigation and explanation of public matters?

## THREE SALOONS GET THE BIG AX

CONVICTED OF VIOLATING LAW, COUNCIL REFUSES LICENSES

MINISTERS FORCE THE ISSUE

Many Ladies Present and Session Was a Warm One

There are three saloons that did not open their doors Thursday morning. The city council refused to grant them licenses because of having been guilty of law violations—and the ministerial Association is feeling well pleased.

The council room was packed to standing room and many ladies were present.

The matter of saloons was brought up as the first order of business in the way of a request from the Ministerial Association, asking that licenses be refused to convicted liquor dealers, on the ground that the charter made this the duty of the council.

Then for two hours there was discussion before the matters came to a vote.