

GRATTON HOSTS ARE INDICTED AND HELD

WILL ANSWER CHARGE OF SELLING INTOXICATING LIQUORS. OUT ON BONDS

On a secret indictment found by the recent Clackamas county grand jury, Miles Coakley and Ed Harris, formerly proprietors of the Hotel Gratton at Milwaukie, were arrested Saturday by Sheriff Wilson and held on two counts for violating the prohibition laws.

FORECLOSE TAXES

The annual application for the foreclosure of delinquent tax certificates was filed Monday in the circuit court by Clackamas county against J. A. Andrews and 164 property owners who have failed to pay their 1910 tax assessments.

NOT GUILTY IS PLEA

Milwaukie Resort Owners Will Fight Charges of Selling Liquor

Miles Coakley and Ed Harris, indicted secretly by the recent grand jury and held under \$4000 total bail to answer charges of unlawfully selling intoxicating liquors, were arraigned in Judge Campbell's court yesterday.

The trial of August Olson, Mulino garage man, on a charge of violating the liquor laws, is being tried in the circuit court today. In the meantime Sheriff Wilson is looking for another alleged bootlegger indicted secretly by the grand jury, and for Martin Denny, one of the proprietors of the Friars' club, wanted here to post \$1000 bond.

GIRLS TO RALLY

Flags Presented By Merchant. Honor Patriotic Spirit

A big patriotic rally at Busch's hall on Friday evening is being planned by the Girls' Honor Guard in observance of Patriotic week as proclaimed by Governor Withycombe. The young women have outlined a fine program, which will include speakers from Portland's military colony and several local orators.

FISHERMEN MEET

Petitions Against Gill Bill Heavily Signed, Says Union

The Clackamas County Fishermen's Union met Monday night to consider further plans for its fight on the Gill bill, enacted at the recent session of the legislature, and which closes the Willamette to salmon netters as far north as Oswego.

LOCK DOORS AND DO PUBLIC WORK

STAR CHAMBER SESSION OF THE CITY COUNCIL AROUSES TAXPAYERS' KICKS

MYSTERIOUS MEETING HELD

Talk Sewer Assessment Rebates and Other Open Subjects Under Police Guard

Public, so Webster tells us, means that pertaining to the people. Anything that is public, our dictionary advises us, is "not in private or secrecy."

If the council has reached that stage in the affairs of government where it has to keep its actions from the eyes and ears of the people it is high time the thing was looked into.

Police guards, barred doors and deep mystery are the very things that made the council meeting on Monday evening a very secret affair and that kept even the most humble of more than a score of taxpayers out of the council chamber while the honorable aldermen spoke in hushed tones over their mysterious work.

In that sanctified saloon of civic chivalry known as the council chamber a group of public servants held forth on Monday night. The dear pee-pul, whose only use in Oregon City, it seems, is to elect aldermen, were admitted to the chamber to bow in righteousness before the exalted shrine of municipal mystery while the honorable council read several and sundry bids on a fire truck which the highly upright aldermen would buy to protect the innocent lives of our citizens and the properties of our poor widows and hungry orphans.

"I have a private matter to discuss with the council and want the people to leave the chamber. Yes, the newspaper men must go, too." These noble words from Mayor Hackett cleared the room promptly. The newspaper men, through the courtesy of Councilman Templeton and Metzner, have been admitted to executive sessions heretofore, but Councilman Metzner's request to have the press remain at the mysterious star chamber meeting on Monday night was ignored absolutely.

F. C. Burke, temporarily a member of the police force, was stationed at the outer door of the chamber to guard it from an attack of the supposedly vicious and dangerous taxpayers who wanted to know what the council intended to do about the sewer assessment in district No. 10. Inside, the gentlemen of the council, speaking in low tones, transacted PUBLIC business. Some of the dignified "representatives" of the useless taxpaying element of our pretty city puffed at nicker cigars and others picked their teeth in grim contemplation of the work at hand—the business of the city and of the people.

The smoky atmosphere lent a maddening mantle of mystery to the star chamber proceedings, for smoke so clouded the air that the birds singing gaily in the night air outside the back window could see no more than they could hear. But the "birds" who waited outside in the fire hall while the work that Mayor Hackett said would occupy "only a moment" knew what went on in a general way. These birds, most of them taxpayers come to hear about the sewer assessments, confined their wrath because the council had slipped one over on them and they had nothing to do but wait for the mayor's minute to pass. An hour later the minute was still ticking merrily on.

How the council can lock itself in from citizens and taxpayers is a question only the council can answer, but the dear pee-pul who are so capable and honorably and openly served by this group of councilmen would like to have it answered.

Behind locks and guards the council last night talked of the appointment of a man to take the place of Chief of Police Blanchard while that officer is engaged at responding to the call of his country as a national guard captain. The intelligent councilmanic claims also heaped themselves up over maps of sewer district No. 10 and talked about a 50 per cent rebate on all property in the district north of Seventeenth street and other possible plans of compromise. There were a number of other matters taken up that were cloaked in mystery—although the necessity is not any

PUPILS DEBATE FOR HONORS IN CONTESTS

SCHOOLS JOIN IN LEAGUE FOR SPRING BASEBALL WORK. ORATIONS READY

The results of the work of the several debating teams which participated in a series of contests on Friday night, under the auspices of the county school league, have been received by School Supervisor Brenton Vedder. The contests between Canby and the Eastham school of this city were postponed and will be held next Friday night.

At Milwaukie, the Oswego negative team won its contest, and at Oswego the Milwaukie negative team won, leaving the two grammar schools to share honors equally. The contests between Gladstone and the Barclay school of Oregon City resulted in the defeat of both Barclay teams. At home Gladstone won unanimously, and here a two-to-one decision was rendered. The Canamah-Clackamas contest at Canamah was won by a unanimous vote by Canamah, and at Clackamas the decision was two to one for the home team. The grammar schools were each represented by two teams debating upon the subject of county-owned and operated paving plants.

Eleven grammar schools in the county have signed up with Mr. Vedder to take part in the spring baseball schedule which is a part of the activities of the Clackamas County School League. Mr. Vedder has been forced by pressure of other work to turn the baseball matters over to Professor N. W. Bowland of the Eastham school of Oregon City, and Mr. Bowland is completing all arrangements for the contests.

The teams entered in the grammar school division represent Molalla, Clackamas, Gladstone, Concord, Canby, Oak Grove, Boring, Milwaukie, Barton and Eastham and Barclay, of Oregon City.

In the high school division of the league Milwaukie, Molalla, Oregon City, Canby, Willamette, Colton and Sandy have entered teams and will start playing early next month.

The grammar school declamatory contest for county schools has been planned for Milwaukie on April 7, when 24 pupils will contest for honors, and nearly that number of schools will be represented, according to Mr. Vedder. The city hall has been secured for the evening to provide seating room for the large audience expected. Mr. Vedder is attempting to bring the high school declamatory contest to Oregon City early next month. Pupils in all the high schools entered in this feature of the work of the county school league have practically completed preparations for the meeting.

PUPILS WILL PLAY

High School Thespians to Stage Play, "Her Friend, The Enemy"

The public library and the young people's institute will benefit from the proceeds of a play, "Her Friend, The Enemy," to be presented at the Shively Opera house on April 10 by high school pupils and alumni. It is probable that the farce will be offered on the following night as well, and it will be directed by Mrs. Theodore Clark. The first performance will have patriotic features, for the Girls' Honor Guard and the Boy Scouts will act as ushers for the evening, while the G. A. R. members agree to attend in a body. On the following night a special effort will be made to entertain high school pupils and their families. Special rates for pupils will be made,

more apparent to the press than it is to the taxpayers.

"We talked about matters relative to the war situation which the people should not know of at this time," Mayor Hackett advised the press on Tuesday. "These are things that should not become public just yet." The secret confab had nothing to do with the sewer district, the mayor said, but that is a mistake because the council absolutely and unquestionably did talk at great length upon this important municipal topic.

Recently a matter was brought up in an executive council session which hardly concerned the public at this time and by which public interest would have suffered if a knowledge of the subject had become general. The press attended the executive meeting and at the request of certain city officials agreed to withhold any public statement until the proper time. The reporters in the room that night are willing to post with Mayor Hackett or any alderman any sum of money within their power as a guarantee of their oath that not one word has escaped them regarding the business of that evening, either in print or by word of mouth.

The appreciation Mayor Hackett and certain of his tedious colleagues show for this faith was to lock doors and place police guards against press and public when PUBLIC business was being discussed on Monday night.

The council has no right to discuss other than public business at its meetings and when public business is being discussed the public should be admitted either en masse of through representatives who serve them more faithfully and honorably than do the majority of city aldermen.

THREE ARRESTED AT FRIAR'S CLUB

PARTNERSHIP FIGHT INVOLVES WAITER WHO TELLS STORY OF LIQUOR SALE

WHISKY CACHES UNCOVERED

Denny and Sullivan Held on Bond. Lacy Jailed. Lacy Stabs One Proprietor

The Friars' club, notorious Milwaukee joint, is in bad again, and because its owners made an agreement among themselves to disagree.

Three arrests and the discovery of more than 20 quarts of intoxicating liquors resulted on Monday from a fight staged at the club late Sunday evening between William Lacy and Martin Denny, one of the proprietors. Lacy, obeying orders from Larry Sullivan, the other partner, challenged Denny's right to be upon the premises Sunday night and, according to Denny, attacked him with an ice pick. Denny nurses a wound below the shoulder blade in the back where he says Lacy stabbed him with the pick. Lacy's net injuries consist of a wound between the eyes where he alleged Denny hit him with a water glass.

The fight came to the attention of officers Monday afternoon when Denny and Lacy swore to assault charges against one another. Deputy District Attorney Thomas A. Burke immediately started an investigation of the affair that resulted in complaints being sworn out against Martin Denny and Larry Sullivan charging them with the unlawful sale of liquor. The official has the signed testimony of Lacy telling of liquor sales in the club, and has sworn corroborative testimony from John Doe Green, a waiter, held late last night for investigation.

In the meantime City Marshal Sam Riley of Milwaukie, working from tips given by Lacy, uncovered liquor caches at several points about the club grounds. On the banks of the river he found an empty cache and another containing eight quart bottles of liquor and one pint bottle, and several of champagne. Behind a garage across the trucks from the club building he dug up a box containing 12 quarts of high-grade whisky. This evidence, together with the sworn testimony of Lacy, was sufficient for Justice Kelso, of Milwaukie. He heard Sullivan and Denny and released them under \$1000 bail. Lacy is held to answer assault charges under a \$300 bond.

Denny and Sullivan, proprietors of the club, have been at outs for more than a week, according to Lacy, and Sullivan ordered Lacy to keep Denny off the place. Sunday evening Sullivan went to Portland and Denny appeared at the club. Under orders Lacy challenged Denny and the fight started.

Marshal Riley, who uncovered the liquor caches, believes there are other secret hiding places about the club grounds, but the clever methods used by Sullivan and Denny make the hidden liquor hard to find. The empty cache found by Riley was a concealed barrel placed in the sand of the river bank just outside the premises of the club. It was fitted up with a trap door and a tunnel just large enough to admit an arm led to the barrel from inside the club fence.

The waiter brought here for investigation Monday night did not tell as much about the liquor as did Lacy, but his testimony bears out Lacy's story in the essential details.

On Tuesday evening Sheriff Wilson and deputies visited the club again and tore out the bar and fixtures and brought a load of equipment to Oregon City. The place will be closed as a public nuisance by District Attorney Hedges.

BEATS OWN RECORD

Hazelia School Attendance Shows Marked Improvement over Past

The attendance record of the Hazelia school for the month ending March 23 shows a vast improvement over all past history. Out of 22 scholars 17 have been neither absent nor tardy and have fully deserved having their names placed on the honor roll.

The honor students are: Kenneth Baker, Grace Duncan, Lawrence Duncan, Irene Duncan, Arthur Flala, Jerry Flala, Charley Helms, Raymond Helms, Lena Lehman, Wilbur Lehman, Edith Wanker, Audrey Wanker, Leonard Whitten, Everett Whitten, Henry Zivney and Emil Zivney.

Asks Foreclosure

A. R. Johnson and T. E. Dodson last Thursday brought suit in the circuit court here to recover on a promissory note for \$1000 signed by E. R. Langley et al. The instrument is dated at Portland on April 25, 1913, and is secured by a mortgage upon 10 acres of Clackamas county property. The complaint asks 6 per cent interest and \$100 attorneys' fees.

TAXPAYER THE GOAT IN MONEY MANEUVER

WORK IN FRONT OF MAYOR'S HOME SAID TO BE PAID FROM GENERAL FUND

Listen! Read this. It is a bit of a story that has all your thrilling tales of municipal manipulation backed off the boards. Its villain is someone or some several in the city council and its trampled hero is the Lowly Taxpayer.

Enter the Lowly Taxpayer: He casts his naked eye about the beautiful scene. It is a city—Oregon City. Its towering rock bluff pierces the deep blue sky under a cloak of fleecy clouds and sundry mansions lend the splendor of varied color to the horizon. Below, the river winds its way quietly between banks that stand high with the structures of prosperity.

The Lowly Taxpayer, meek as a shorn lamb under the weight of a 40-mile assessment, journeys down Main street. He breathes the dirty dust from this ucleian, unsanitary, odoriferous thoroughfare. He comes to Seventeenth street.

"Hal' and Ho!" exclaims our burdened hero. "Here, verily, have we signs of prosperity—the very beacon-light of progress."

The good city is engaged in the repair of Seventeenth street, called a street, but to the eye of our hero nothing more than a graceful alley.

"I shall investigate this sudden affluence of the Seventeenth street property owners," the Lowly Taxpayer says, as he hastens to yon lunch stand to employ the telephone in his search for information.

"Hello, hello!" he calls merrily into the receiver. "Is this the residence of Mr. Councilman? Yes? Well, about is it costing the property owners to place crushed rock on that street and to repair it otherwise so that it may be a fit byway in our pretty city?"

"What's that; whaduya mean, crushed rock on Seventeenth street?" Angrily Mr. Councilman shakes the phone on the wall to be sure that he hears aright. "You don't mean to tell me, Mr. Taxpayer, that repairs are being made on Seventeenth street. Absurd! Why, there isn't a power in Oregon City strong enough to defy the direct orders of our honorable city council!"

"But today, this very Wednesday, in the month of March, its 28th day, and in the year of our Lord 1917, the city street superintendent and other gentlemen are placing crushed rock upon Seventeenth street and are otherwise repairing it. I noticed especially, kind sir, that such work was under way in front of the domicile of our mayor, Mr. Hackett."

"How can it be; how can it be!" cries Mr. Councilman into his phone. "I remember distinctly, Mr. Taxpayer, that the council on Monday night of this same week gave strict orders to have that work stopped. Are we defied? Are the orders of that august body held for naught by some villain in this city? I'll have to tell you the story, Mr. Taxpayer. Listen."

"Last Monday night the council assembled. We got down to public business when the mayor ordered the room cleared of all spectators and the newspaper men. We locked the door and stationed a policeman to stand guard. We made sure that we were alone and unheard. Ah, it is a sad story!

"We know lots of things we don't tell, Mr. Taxpayer. We knew that last week the street department had been repairing Seventeenth street. We asked about the matter and were told that the money for the work was coming from the GENERAL FUND. Isn't it terrible? That wouldn't do, of course, so we told the mayor and an objecting member of our body that the street in front of the mayor's home wasn't any better than any other street and if repairs were to be made the property owners would have to foot the bill. Money for such purposes can't be taken out of the general fund as long as I am a councilman."

"But they are doing it just the same, it seems," the Lowly Taxpayer said. "I have property on Molalla avenue and I'd like to have it rocked and paid for from the general fund if the rest of them get it done that way."

"It can't be did!" Mr. Councilman yelled into the phone and slammed up the receiver. Angrily he rushed for the door, hatless, coatless, breathless. As Mr. Councilman said to the Lowly Taxpayer, "It's a sad story" and too long to repeat. But the upshot of the matter is that Mr. Councilman will endeavor to force a special meeting of the council to see what can be done to halt the work on Seventeenth street since it goes on in spite of orders from the council.

CLUB DISCUSSES PROPOSED BONDS

MOUNT PLEASANT WOMEN PROVE ROYAL HOSTS BY OVERFEEDING WIRES

SPLENDID ENTERTAINMENT

Friendly Debate Brings Out New Points About Bonds. McBain Shows Figures

After doing justice to a royal banquet that was put before them by the good women of Mount Pleasant on Tuesday evening the Live Wires of the Commercial club got down to the debate of the proposed \$6,000,000 road bond issue and entertained their hosts in proper style.

As was the case at the previous meeting at Logan, the Wires paid more attention to the meal than anything else. They scrambled for chairs first and for food second, last and all the time. Plates heaped high with the splendid food prepared for their banquet disappeared promptly and amid much smacking of satisfied lips. The Live Wires have resolved to eat away from home as often as they can get such meals.

Thus fortified with all the good things that the Mount Pleasant country produces and surrounded by an interested audience of Mount Pleasant people, the Wires staged their cut-and-dried debate on the road bond proposition. The school house resounded with the oratory of Judge Grant B. Dimick, who started the debate for the affirmative team, of which B. T. McBain was the other member. Judge Dimick spent his allotted time at picking flaws in the present road building system and blamed the road supervisor plan for much of the ineffective work that has been done at such great cost to the people. Doing away with the supervisor plan, made possible by the last legislature, will result in better roads for the county, Judge Dimick said.

"The only thing we have to consider about this bond bill is whether or not the result will be worth the cost in interest on the bonds," the judge stated. He pointed out that no prompt and permanent work could be expected unless the state issued bonds. If good roads are worth the interest on bonds, then pass this measure, the judge advised. He illustrated his talk with a number of pointed stories and called attention to the idea of building a house by paying cash as the structure went up. By the time the roof is on and paid for it will be time to repair the foundation, Judge Dimick said. Under the bond plan we can build the roads and pay for them as we use them.

The first speaker on the negative side of the question was O. D. Eby. Lacking figures to contradict the arguments of the other side he laid down a series of propositions for the affirmative to answer. He said that the bond bill was dishonest on its face because it proposed the surfacing of more roads, by several hundred miles, than the money that would be available could pay for. He expressed the belief that the proposed plan for paying off the bonds would not produce sufficient money for the purpose. Mr. Eby spoke not as an opponent of the bond bill, but merely as a debater, without expressing his personal convictions.

B. T. McBain, the second speaker in favor of the bonds, presented figures to show how the automobile licenses and the quarter-mile state tax would pay off the bonds in 25 years and leave a very comfortable balance. He answered the propositions laid down by Mr. Eby and upheld his statements in most cases with figures. He said:

"If this bond issue is approved by the voters we will get a system of hard surfaced roads. If it is not approved we will pay the increased automobile license fee and the quarter-mile state tax just the same and we may not get any roads. It appears that the statement that the legislature had us 'over a barrel' is true. We can vote the bonds or not—the cost to us will be the same."

C. Schuebel closed the debate for the negative. He brought out several side lights on the bond bill and charged that it was tainted with graft and abnormal profit. That 40 per cent of every dollar raised by the bonding bill will go to graft and by excessive profits into the pockets of paving contractors, was the statement made by Mr. Schuebel.

"This bill was conceived in corruption," Mr. Schuebel said. "It was brought up on the 35th day of the legislative session and rushed through so that the very men who voted for it there had no opportunity to know what it was all about. The paving companies are behind the bill and they will charge us the customary \$1.25 or \$1.50 for a yard of hard surfacing that Clackamas county could apply under its plan for less than half the amount. Clackamas county will have to pay to grade and put its roads in shape and then pay again to have the surface applied. The county could do the grading and surfacing together for less cost than the state

WORK RESUMED UPON GOVERNMENT LOCKS

WIL BUILD FLUMES FOR MILL. HOPE FOR APPROPRIATION FOR OTHER WORK

Presaging the early resumption of work on the government locks on the west side of the Willamette at Oregon City, the U. S. Engineer steamer Mataloma arrived at the locks late yesterday afternoon. She pushed a tender laden with equipment and supplies. The work on the locks was stopped mysteriously in spite of the fact that the appropriation for the work had not been used.

The locks will be drained on Sunday, April 8, and again on the following Sunday, to permit the government to install footings for the temporary dams and while this work is being done the P. R. L. & P. Co. will also establish a temporary dam footing for its power station service. Following this work the government will get at the task of completing the concrete dividing wall upon which it was working when activity paused last spring. A wooden canal will be built to permit boats to pass while the concrete structure is being built, according to federal workmen. Another wooden flume will be built to provide water for the paper mills while the locks are drained and the work therein is in progress.

It is estimated that the work to be completed will cost the government more than \$100,000 and will be completed by early summer. An effort has been made and will be continued, to secure a congressional appropriation of \$80,000 to pay for the work of deepening the lower chamber of the locks.

THE EASTER SPIRIT

Easter wares supplied by the most progressive merchants in Oregon City for their Clackamas county patrons are called to the special attention of Courier readers in this issue. Advertisers in this paper represent the business men who endeavor to please their patrons and in return their greatest pleasure is to have their announcements carefully read. Easter shopping is in order. You will find these pages a veritable guide book to the best trading places—and such places carry the best goods. The stores are heavily stocked with beautiful spring merchandise and buyers are stocked with desire and money. Let them get together!

SEVEN GUARDS NAMED

Sheriff Wilson Aids Portland to Protect Bull Run Supply

At the request of officials of the Portland water department, Sheriff Wilson Tuesday deputized seven men as guards for the Portland Bull Run water system in this county. The men have been stationed at various points along the pipe line and will remain, according to Sheriff Wilson's information, as long as war threatens the nation. The deputies appointed yesterday are all veterans of the Spanish-American war. They will have nothing to do with the South Fork pipe line.

Patten Endorsed

At their meeting at Mount Pleasant on Tuesday evening the Live Wires of the Oregon City Commercial club went on record by unanimous vote as favoring the reappointment of Ben S. Patten as deputy game warden for Clackamas county. Previously the Wires had endorsed Bert Jewell as deputy fish warden and that appointment has been made. Patten has served as game warden in the mountainous districts of this county for a number of years and in endorsing him the Live Wires officially recognized the esteem in which he is held for his capable work.

FRENCH APPOINTED

Mayor E. C. Hackett Tuesday appointed Lee French, of the night police force, to take the place of Chief of Police Blanchard on the day force while the latter is engaged as captain of Company G. O. N. G. F. C. Burke, formerly a policeman, will temporarily take the place of French on the night force.

will do the paving alone." Mr. Schuebel did not speak as a partisan against the bill, he said, but merely brought out these points to make the debate interesting.

The Wires were entertained by the musical numbers of Mr. McLain, Dr. Roy A. Prudden and Harold A. Swafford. Miss Florence Grace of Oregon City presided at the piano and won the delighted applause of her audience.

The Wires have accepted an invitation from Gladstone church women for next Tuesday evening, and will hold their regular meeting at that place.