

MILWAUKIE CLUBHOUSE

MAY BE TURNED INTO A ROADHOUSE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

DON'T NEED THE MONEY

And Will Not Try to Start Gaming—Solliquizes on What the Club Did For the Village of Milwaukie.

"Ike" Gratton, owner of the Milwaukie Clubhouse and grounds, returned to Portland Friday, after a visit to Europe, to find the "tiger" dead, and the lid firmly clamped over the club. It is reported that Gratton said nothing, and intends to do still less, realizing that it is almost impossible to reopen the club in the face of so much opposition from the reform element.

Telling the whole story in the case the Oregonian says: Yesterday morning a delegation of the leading citizens of Milwaukie, the once thriving and prosperous little town adjacent to the club, called on Gratton and told him a story of how the closing had affected their town, of the great decrease in property values, and the lull in business. They also told of the financial condition of the town, and how the loss of the revenue collected as license had almost bankrupted the municipality. Gratton, however, could promise nothing for them, and the delegation went away.

"As far as I am concerned," said the owner of the club, "I don't care about the gambling; but it is the only business that will pay there. My family have been after me for years to leave the game alone. I don't need the money; I have plenty of real estate and interests in manufacturing concerns to live comfortably; but still I have that property there. I am receiving good rent and would like to see the club remain open. Then, operation of the club increases the value of adjacent property, and it gives the streetcar company more revenue, enabling it to put more cars on the line. I have considerable property besides the club and club grounds around Milwaukie and Sellwood, and would like to see everything increase in value.

"As I said, I do not care whether gambling is permitted at the club. It makes very little difference to me, outside of the rent derived from the use of the building. If I can do nothing else, I think that I will turn the building into a first-class roadhouse. Another thing I wish to be known is that the club supported the town of Milwaukie. Without the license derived from the club, the people of that town would never have been able to make the needed improvements around their little town. They built a city hall, improved streets, and put their little place in first-class shape. Then they sold bonds, depending on the license from the club to meet the debts in time. Now the revenue is gone, and when the bonds become due, the citizens will be unable to pay."

The first knowledge that Gratton had of the closing was when he arrived in Portland. During his absence in Europe none of the employes or the directors sent him any information of the closing, or of the action of the authorities.

Gratton had been absent since the first of March. In his travels he visited France, Italy, Germany, Belgium, Holland, England, Ireland and Scotland. He was accompanied by his wife.

Saw Mill Men Spreading Out.

Dennis-Davis & Company, owner of the Milwaukie shingle mill, have purchased a block of ground on the river front in Milwaukie adjoining the site of the shingle mill, paying \$4000 for it. The purchase was made to enable the company to proceed at once with the erection of a saw mill. The firm has 400 feet of water-front. The sawmill will give employment to a considerable number of men.

ECONOMIST READERS SEE NO PANIC SIGNS

REPLIES TO INQUIRIES BRAND WALL STREET WITH PESSIMISM

An Associated Press dispatch dated New York, says: Remarkable for their optimism are the replies from more than 3000 retail merchants, jobbers and bankers regarding the business outlook of the country, which were printed last week in the Dry Goods Economist. They show that there is no evidence of business depression, that on the whole the retailers are purchasing as heavily as they did last year, and that all are looking for a continuation of prosperity.

There is not the slightest evidence of the pessimism that has pervaded Wall Street. Where there is a trade depression it is due to local conditions as, for instance, in San Francisco, where on account of the labor troubles the merchants have not purchased as heavily as heretofore. In other places the merchants for the most part state that it is because prices are so high that they look for a lower level and are purchasing for the immediate demand only.

Five questions were asked by the Economist of its subscribers in making the canvass of the business conditions. They are:

"What are the crop conditions of your section?"

"How are the farmers fixed financially?"

"Is labor well employed or otherwise in your city and vicinity?"

"Do you observe any condition that would cause you seriously to apprehend any decline from present prosperity?"

"Have you bought as freely as you did last year at this time?"

In classifying the replies the states and territories were placed in five great divisions. In all of these on the whole the prospects for good crops are bright, and where the crops are lighter than heretofore, the higher prices more than compensate. In all sections there appears to be a scarcity of available labor, while unusually high prices are being paid.

"All's well," is the summary which the Economist makes of the situation in the entire country.

"GREENHORN" STIRS REID TO MAKE REPLY

COMES BACK WITH FIGURES AS TO PRODUCTION AND POSSIBILITIES.

CULTIVATED ORCHARD

Where Thousands Would Pay Immense Profits—Tells of What is Possible When One Dairy is in Earnest.

Editor Enterprise:—I have read your comments upon statements recently published in The Oregonian as having been made by me, and the article by some one who for some reason did not sign his name.

As to the comments of a personal nature I have nothing to say. I maintain and am prepared to prove that what I said as to lack of dairy cattle and the backward conditions of that portion of Clackamas county concerning which my statement was made is correct. In that visit I did not visit the Clear Creek or Damascus creameries.

The gentleman after my scalp-lock says the Clear Creek creamery paid its patrons \$4500 last month, which is probably true. The Damascus creamery does about the same amount of business as the Clear Creek creamery.

The reports made to Dairy and Food Commissioner Bailey show that in 1906 the creameries of Clackamas county paid out \$64,727. When you have deducted the pay roll of the two creameries mentioned you can easily see how small, indeed, is the value of the dairy produce of the rest of the county.

Compare these figures with the value of the dairy produce of Washington county, where the two milk condensers paid last year \$750,000 to the farmers of Washington county for milk alone.

Inquiry made of the transportation companies also show that while Clackamas county has twice the railway mileage that Washington county has, the latter ships to Portland three cans of milk and cream for every one shipped by Clackamas county.

As to pedigree, that has been fought out time and again and if you will take a trip to Washington county you will find 80 per cent of the cows are grades or registered cows, and the best paying herds are headed by bulls with a pedigree, whose ancestors are big milkers on both sides.

There is no question in my mind as to the fact that nature gave Clackamas county the cream of the agricultural land of the Willamette Valley. It has more good fruit land than any of the other valley counties and is by far the best for dairying.

The last United States census shows that there were in 1900 2508 farms in Clackamas county with 90,061 acres of improved land. The value of farm produce not fed to stock was \$1,454,000. The same census gave Washington county, with 92,512 acres of improved lands farm produce not fed to cattle \$1,467,000.

If the farmers of Clackamas county are to keep up with the dairy procession they will have to change their ways. When one compares what Clackamas county is actually doing in fruit production with what it might do with proper pruning, spraying and cultivation no resident of the county can fail to be humiliated. It is time that some one said something that will make the people sit up and take notice.

The last United States census shows that Clackamas county had 267,436 apple trees which bore 26,369 bushels of commercial apples—less than one-tenth of a bushel per tree. And will any one say the crop was larger last year, when the merchants of Oregon City had to buy apples from Portland to supply the home demand?

Yet just across the river in Yamhill county one fruitgrower shipped 43 cars of commercial apples to Eastern and Southern markets which netted him over \$1.50 per box, or in the aggregate more than double the value of all the apples raised in Clackamas county.

The secretary of the State Board of Horticulture tells me that he recently took a trip in Clackamas county in which he drove twenty miles through what he believes to be naturally one

of the very best fruit growing districts of the state, and that while he saw a large number of orchards he saw but one which had been cultivated and that one was used for growing corn. Clackamas county has some of the best and most progressive farmers to be found in the state; and this can likewise be said of the dairymen and fruitgrowers. The trouble is not enough are living up to their splendid opportunities. I am willing to make eight-tenths of the county mad if I can even in a small way stir up a determination to do better, adopt better methods, keep up and breed better stock and give their orchards the kind of care which will bring profits.

JAMES H. REID.

RIVER TRAFFIC DIFFICULT

Bottom of River Getting too Near the Surface.

If it were not for the fact that the large river steamer Oregon, plying between Salem and Portland, draws only one and one-half feet of water, there would be no river traffic at all, the river being so low that the boat is quite frequently required to hitch to a big tree a long way ahead and use a capstan and donkey engine to draw itself over the sand bars which it encounters on its trips. The river is not so low this year as it was for the same period last year. However, the channel has filled considerably, thus making passage difficult.

A trip on the Oregon from Salem to Portland at the present time would take up the greater part of the day. The boat leaves Salem at 6 a. m., no schedule time being set for its return.

The government dredge, Mateloma, is working continuously on the channel between Salem and Portland.

CELEBRATES LABOR DAY AT WILLAMETTE

Proves a Great Success—Basket Picnic, Speaking, Athletic Sports and Dancing.

Hundreds of citizens of Oregon City and vicinity attended the picnic and kindred amusements provided in the grove at Willamette, under the auspices of the Willamette Development League, Labor Day. The program embraced a ball game in the morning, basket dinner at noon, speaking at 12:40, races and athletic contests after the speaking, second ball game at 3 o'clock with dancing afternoon and evening.

O. P. Hoff, state commissioner of labor, was the first speaker and he was followed by Attorney Hayes. The grove was filled with an audience of five hundred who repeatedly cheered the speakers. Their remarks were especially acceptable, and the music of the band added to the enjoyment of the literary part of the program. The ball game in the forenoon was between the Oregon City Grays and Woolen Mills Blues and was won by the latter in a score of 8 to 3. The afternoon game was won by the Grays score 16 to 12. The afternoon game was advertised between the Woodburn and St. Johns teams but neither showed up for the contest and neither sent a word of explanation to the committee.

The League is well pleased with the outcome of its efforts. Arrangements have been made to further improve the grounds looking to future entertainments and picnics.

BAPTIST CHURCH RAISES THE FUNDS

An enthusiastic body of worshippers gathered in the Baptist church Sunday with a fixed purpose, among other things to raise the balance of the \$2,500 needed for contemplated improvements and betterments in and around that place of worship. After the usual exercises the plan for raising the funds was explained to those present and in a short time the sum, lacking a few dollars, which those necessarily detained are bound to make up, was raised.

That settles the question of the improvements, which will be made.

The work will begin within a few days, or just as soon as help can be secured competent to handle the undertaking.

Pastor Linden is greatly gratified with the outcome and feels like making a comprehensive campaign for good in Oregon City.

When the betterments are completed the Baptist church will be one of the most pleasant and commodious structures given up to religious services in the city.

SALMON MAY BECOME EXTINCT.

"If the rate of fishing of the past few years continues, and the State Legislatures persist in regulating the industry with farcial legislation, it will be but a question of a few years when the salmon of the Columbia river will have gone the way of the buffalo of the plains. There will be no more salmon."

That is what a Portland fish dealer said one day last week.

TAX EXEMPTION OF POOR MAN'S HOME

REFORM LEAGUE PLANNING TO MAKE RICH MAN PAY HIS SHARE

To exempt from taxation all manufacturing plants, dwelling-houses, household goods and bearing orchards in the State of Oregon, an amendment to the State Constitution will be submitted at the election next June, according to preparations being made by the Tax Reform League of Portland. Petitions are being prepared for circulation, and those interested expect to obtain the necessary number before the time limit expires.

"But if these properties are exempt from taxation, how does the League propose to raise the necessary taxes?" was asked.

"Naturally, when certain property has been exempted from taxation, the cost of government must fall on that which is not exempt," he said, "and this will compel the owners of valuable city property which pays big dividends to shoulder more of the burden. Take such property as that of Jacob Kamm, for instance, at the corner of Washington and First. This is kept in a state of idleness because the owner chooses to do so, although it is one of the most valuable downtown quarter blocks in the city. If the taxes on such property are increased Mr. Kamm will be compelled to improve it to make it pay the expenses of government. Besides, there are many valuable properties in the city that are earning enormous incomes, but pay only a small proportion of what they should pay in taxes."

L. ADAMS' STORE BURGLARIZED SUNDAY

Some amateur burglar broke into the dry goods store of L. Adams Sunday night and made an amateurish attempt on the cash register. Maddened by the resistance of the cash register he stole a few handkerchiefs and ties and a few rings and silently sneaked out.

Judging by the damage done the burglar must have been in the store for an hour. He effected an entrance through a rear window and showed some little skill in getting through glass and in the opening of locks.

His chief vengeance was wrecked on the cash register. Instead of opening it by pressing the proper keys, he was evidently afraid he would give the alarm by ringing the bell. He used a hatchet and screwdriver to get in, but failed. He damaged the register to the extent of \$25. No clue to the identity of the thief.

Drops Dead in Yard.

C. C. Babcock, Sr., an old soldier and one of the early pioneers to Oregon, dropped dead at his home on Twelfth street Thursday morning while doing chores about the house. He was 75 years of age and well and favorably known in and around this city. He was one of the most faithful members of the G. A. R. post and while arrangements have not been perfected for the funeral it is almost certain that he will be buried with honors by the post.

The stairway leading to the bluff from Sixth street is reported to be in a dangerous condition. Those who use it should consider the danger to life and limb.

NEW WHARF IS ASSURED

CITY TELLS SOUTHERN PACIFIC TO BUILD STEEL BRIDGE OR CUT TRAINS.

STAIRWAY DANGEROUS

Bunch of Ordinances Passed, Bills Ordered Paid, Survey to Elevate Street Improvements Ordered Made.

Council met in regular session on Wednesday evening with Mayor Caufield and Messrs. Knapp, Williams, Pope, Betzel, Myers, Andresen and Logus present.

The liquor licenses of E. A. Brady and A. H. Griessen were extended to October 1.

Communication was received from Frank Busch and others asking to have Eleventh and Moss streets improved to a wharf to be erected on the banks of the Willamette at the foot of Eleventh. Accompanying this communication was a stock subscription to the wharf itself amounting to nearly \$2000, as a guarantee of good faith on the part of those asking for the street improvement. Mr. Knapp moved that the grades be established and work commenced. This brought on a discussion in which Mr. Andresen wanted to go slow and see what the wharf would be, etc. He wanted to be very cautious in the expenditure of public funds. H. E. Cross thought inasmuch as the property holders on each side of the improved streets must bear two-thirds of cost of improvement, and chip in in general taxes on the city's third, and then had subscribed from \$100 to \$250 each additional for the wharf, it looked as if no undue caution was needed. Council ordered the surveying necessary to improvement.

Communication from the Southern Pacific was received relative to a over head crossing over Sixth street. The company does not wish to build a steel structure across their tracks but will build a wooden bridge if the Council is willing. Council instructed the Recorder to notify the S. P. that unless overhead bridge is built now the city will build new walk and steps on grade crossing plan, as at present, and require the S. P. to cut all trains that stop over limit prescribed in the city ordinance.

The discussion of the proposition brought out the fact that the stairway at Sixth street is in very bad condition, that it is dangerous to continue to use it in present state of repair, and that the city must act soon in the matter or close street.

Harry Jones bid \$2.35 for crushed rock put on the Mount Pleasant road and E. R. Williams \$2.15 for gravel. Council thought gravel would outlast crushed rock and referred bids to Mayor and street and public property committee.

Street Commissioner Bradley was granted a ten-day vacation, with full pay.

Greenpoint fire department given order for \$16 to apply on allowance to March 1.

City Engineer reported on street improvements as constructed by Harry Jones and Recorder ordered to pay according to report.

Recorder instructed to prepare dog license tags, etc., in preparation for the annual campaign against canines.

New pipe ordered put into sewer at Twelfth and Monroe, where a break has occurred to the annoyance of people living in that neighborhood.

Council ordered that workers on the city streets who do not wish to wait the full month for pay be given time orders every two weeks.

Ordinances were read and passed and a bunch of bills ordered paid and Council adjourned.

When the petition providing for an election to decide the question of establishing an excise board was called up Council voted to indefinitely postpone consideration of the subject.

FOR SALE.

Horse, buggy and harness, light express wagon, plow hand-cultivator, garden tools, organ, and household furniture at 16th and Polk streets, or inquire at this office.

WANTED

Farms to be listed with us.

WHY?

BECAUSE

We advertise extensively. That gives us a market.

BECAUSE

We have many inquiries. That gives us customers.

BECAUSE

We go after business. That helps us to sell your farm.

BECAUSE

We are wide awake. That brings quick returns for you.

COOPER & CO.