

OREGON CITY ENTERPRISE

FORTY-SECOND YEAR—No. 8

OREGON CITY, OREGON, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1908.

ESTABLISHED 1866.

GREAVES OUT FOR SHERIFF

FILES HIS PETITION FOR REPUBLICAN NOMINATION FOR COUNTY OFFICE.

NO FIGHT IN PRIMARY

Hot Contest Expected Over Statement No. 1 Among Legislative Candidates—E. E. Judd, of Molalla, Out for Commissioner.

It is apparent that Richard L. Greaves will make the fight for the Republicans for the office of Sheriff of Clackamas County, and his petition for the nomination was filed yesterday afternoon. R. L. Spodgrass, of Meadowbrook, who has been prominently mentioned in connection with the office for the last year, has declined to enter the lists and Mr. Greaves is the favorite for the nomination, and it is expected that the Republicans will get



CHAUNCEY E. RAMSBY, recorder of conveyances, who will be renominated without opposition for a second term.

through the primary nominating election without a contest for this office. Sheriff Beattie, the incumbent, is a democrat, the only official of that political faith in the courthouse, and the Republicans are going to make a united and determined effort to wrest the plum from the control of the minority and land a Republican in the place. Sheriff Beattie is a candidate for reelection. Mr. Greaves was an unsuccessful aspirant for the nomination last year, and Eli Madock, who obtained the nomination in a field of five, was beaten by Beattie by less than 100 votes, after a bitter factional struggle. With the elimination of this factional strife in the coming campaign, it appears that if Mr. Greaves, an old-time, true-blue Republican, can secure his party strength, he will be the next Sheriff of Clackamas County.

Chauncey E. Ramsby, who has served one term as recorder of conveyances, will probably have no opposition at the primaries. He has made an excellent official and under the unwritten rule of Clackamas County Republican politics, is entitled to a second term. The same condition exists with County Clerk Greenman, whose record is without a blemish, and with J. C. Paddock, county treasurer, and a well-known member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Theodore J. Gary, county school superintendent, was appointed to the office only last fall, and has been so successful that he will no doubt be renominated without opposition.

Two men have entered the contest for county assessor, and the incumbent, James F. Nelson, and George F. Horton, have filed petitions for the Republican nomination. Both are members of the local Grand Army Post. Mr. Horton was for two terms county clerk and later was postmaster of Oregon City for one term. The scrap will be a pretty one. Mr. Nelson, while he has been in office, has been an advocate of equal assessment, and has increased the assessment of the corporation and timber holdings and will make his campaign on his record.

The legislative campaign in Clackamas County is going to be a scream. The conditions in Clackamas are similar to those in other sections of the Willamette Valley, for there is a fight on Statement No. 1, many of the old-line Republicans believing that the Republican candidates for the nomination should sign only a modified statement, agreeing to support the Republican candidate for United States Senator who receives the highest number of the people's votes. George W. Dixon, of Canby, who edits the Canby Tribune, will be a Statement No. 1 candidate. Representative Linn E. Jones has not declared himself positively, but it is understood that he is opposed to Statement No. 1. He is a candidate for reelection, as is Representative Charles H. Dye, whose position on the Statement has not been made public. F. M. Gill, of Estacada, is another man who is mentioned in connection with the nomination, and he has made no declaration. Frank Jaggar, of Beaver Creek, is understood to be opposed to the Democratic chances embraced in the Statement No. 1, although he has not said that he

will be a candidate. J. U. Campbell, who served as joint representative from Clackamas and Multnomah at the last session, may again be a candidate, but he is not for the Statement. W. S. U'ren will leave no stone unturned to elect the Statement No. 1 candidates in Clackamas, and their politics will be a secondary consideration with him. C. Schuebel, erstwhile candidate for United States District Attorney, is also a strenuous supporter of the Statement, and declares that the men who sign the Statement will everlastingly whip the men who do not. Mr. Schuebel is the present chairman of the County Central Committee and has called a meeting of the committee to meet at the courthouse Saturday, February 29, at 11 a. m., for the purpose of calling a county convention to select delegates to the State convention. Mr. Schuebel has stated that he will withdraw from his position as chairman of the committee and John C. Bradley, formerly a member of the State Central Committee, is looked upon with favor as a likely man for Mr. Schuebel's successor as manager of the coming Republican campaign.

E. E. Judd, of Molalla, who has been a resident of that place for 20 years, and whose Republicanism has never been questioned, has filed his petition for the Republican nomination of County Commissioner. Mr. Judd has many friends in the south end of the county who have urged him to become a candidate, believing that their section should have representation on the board.

JENNINGS LODGE TO HAVE NEW DISTRICT

FORTY-FIVE ACRES TAKEN FROM GLADSTONE TO ESTABLISH TWO-ROOM SCHOOL.

The people of Jennings Lodge have won a partial victory in their effort to obtain a new school district, for Tuesday the District Boundary Board made an order for the establishment of the new district, but the boundaries will not be quite as extensive as the original petition of the residents of Jennings Lodge expected to receive. Under the order establishing the new district, there will be about 45 acres cut off from District No. 48, in which is now embraced Parkplace and Gladstone. This 45 acres from the northerly portion of Gladstone and a large slice off the southerly part of Concorn, comprises the new district of Jennings Lodge. The south line of the new district will come as far south as the Meldrum tract, but will not embrace that property, so the order is satisfactory to Judge John W. Meldrum, and to the people of Jennings Lodge and Gladstone as well, since the



MISS "BUNNIE" OWNBEY.

part that is taken from Gladstone will not materially affect the chances of that place for a new district.

The petition of Gladstone people for a new district, and to make the Clackamas River the dividing line between Gladstone and Parkplace will be heard by the District Boundary Board in a few weeks, probably early in March. The residents of Gladstone propose to make a hard fight to obtain a school on their side of the Clackamas, and say they are now able to maintain a four-room school.

ROSE SHOW THIS SPRING.

Beautiful Flowers Will Be Exhibited In This City By Local Society.

The second annual Rose Show of the Oregon City Rose and Carnation Society will be held in this city the latter part of May if the season for the beautiful flowers should be early; otherwise the event will be scheduled for early in June. This much was decided Monday night at a meeting of the society in the courthouse. An adjournment was taken until next Monday evening, when it is expected an enthusiastic meeting will be held, and every member of the society will be personally urged to be present.

Contrary to the procedure of last year, there will be no Strawberry Festival held in conjunction with the Rose Show, as the buds and blossoms come too early for the berries, but it is planned to make the show successful beyond last year, and not only roses and carnations will be exhibited, but a wild flower department will be arranged for.

It is the intention of the officers of the Rose and Carnation Society to have an open meeting in the near future, and this meeting will be addressed by some well-known expert on the rose culture.

SCHOOL CLERK STEALS MONEY FROM DISTRICT

Otto F. Olson, of Willamette, Embezzles Funds From Methodist Church of Oregon City and Admits Several Forgeries.

Otto F. Olson, trustee and financial agent of the Methodist Episcopal Church of this city, electrical superintendent of Station B of the Portland General Electric Company, and for the last 12 years clerk of the Willamette school district, is a defaulter to the extent of at least \$5000, and was arrested at 11 o'clock Thursday night at his home by Sheriff Beattie and Deputy Baker. He was not placed in jail immediately, because of his physical condition, resulting from injuries received by a fall about two weeks ago, and, acting upon the advice of Dr. M. C. Strickland, the officers took Olson to the Brunswick Hotel, where he remained until Friday afternoon in custody of Special Deputy Sheriff S. R. Green.

Olson has been a resident of this locality for about 18 years. He came from Chicago and has been in the employ of the Portland General Electric Company ever since. He is past 40 years of age and has a family, consisting of a wife and four children.

Olson had the misfortune to become crazed over mining speculation. He was heavily interested in several properties and required considerable money to carry them along. His salary of \$125 a month was not sufficient to cover the cost of his speculations, and he resorted to the method of stealing school funds and then trying to cover up the theft.

It has been the custom for years of the directors of the Willamette district to draw one warrant covering the amount of the expenditures shown at each meeting. Olson would make a list of the amounts due and then the board would draw a warrant in Olson's favor for the whole amount due. This warrant would be cashed by the clerk, and it was presumed by the board that he had always paid the claims listed. It was in this manner that Olson managed to embezzle \$3000 at one time. This was on June 11, 1906, when the district voted to take up a bond for \$3000, held by the Columbia Trust Company of Middletown, Conn. The warrant was drawn in Olson's favor but as time went on and the bond was not returned to the district, the directors began to ask questions, and Olson cleverly managed to introduce at the board meetings forged letters, explaining delays. He went to County Treasurer Paddock, who has charge of the interest remittances, and told that official that in future he would himself attend to the interest payments. It is supposed that as the interest became due from time to time it was paid by Olson out of the funds in his possession, as a result of the steal.

Becoming suspicious over the failure of the Columbia Trust Company to return the bonds, Frank Capen, chairman of the Willamette district school board, a few weeks ago, unknown to Olson, wrote a letter to the company, asking why the bonds had not been sent back after the payment, and last week his suspicions were confirmed by receiving a reply, stating that they had never before received any intimation that the district desired to take up the bonds. This evident betrayal of trust on the part of Olson brought about his arrest. It was feared that he would in some manner learn of the developments and would commit suicide, so he was taken into custody.

It is possible that Olson's recent fall from the top of a transformer at the electric station was not an accident at all, but he evidently feared that his crime would be discovered and climbed to the top of the transformer to grasp a 10,000 volt wire, when he probably missed his footing, falling 14 feet to a concrete floor, tearing his scalp nearly off and sustaining injuries to his chest. He was alone in the transformer room at the time of the affair, and employees of the company state that he had no business on the transformer and certainly planned to take his own life.

The developments spread like wildfire and caused general regret. Olson was a man who bore the highest character in religious and business circles.

In addition to the transaction with school money, he is involved in other deals that do not have a criminal appearance. He owes \$400 to Mrs. Ross, of Willamette, and \$800 to Mr. Fredericks. This last loan, however, is secured by a mortgage on Olson's home in Willamette.

Olson's attorney is George C. Brownell.

At the preliminary hearing Friday Olson's bond was fixed at \$5000, but he declined to make any attempt to procure bail and preferred going to jail. His wife and neighbors interested themselves in his behalf and after his release it is very probable that an attempt will be made to make good the amounts embezzled and to save Olson from a term in the State Penitentiary. While this is an extremely delicate matter to handle, it is possible that it will eventually be done, though Olson is quite willing to take the punishment that he says he deserves. He still has many warm friends.

It is hoped by Olson's friends that they will be able to raise the money to pay off all claims and in that manner procure his release, and it is understood that the prosecution is not disposed to bring further disgrace to Olson's family by sending the defaulting ex-school clerk to the Penitentiary, providing the total amount of his pecuniations is made good.

Every day brings fresh disclosures of theft on the part of Olson, and while the officers of the Methodist Episcopal Church will make no statement, it is admitted that Olson collected the rents for the last eight months and did not account for the money, which is probably in excess of \$1000. Olson borrowed money right and left, and forged the names of sureties. He obtained \$250 three years ago from H. C. Stevens, through Attorney O. D. Eby, who acted as a broker in negotiating the loan, and he forged to this note the name of Rudolph Koerner, who states that he never signed the paper. Olson and Mr. Koerner were associated together in mining deals.

Olson also procured \$350 from Lou Feaster, stating that the money was for the use of the Methodist Church, and he deliberately forged the names of the trustees of the church to the note. He obtained \$100 from Ernest Leighton and forged the name of his wife to the note. The names of T. A. Pope and W. E. Pratt on his school bond for 1905 are clearly forgeries. The name of W. C. Foster, a brother of Mrs. Olson, appears as witness on the bond, but he probably witnessed only the signature of Olson, although no other name appears as witness. Olson forged the name of the chairman of the board of directors to several school warrants, amounting up to the hundreds. He procured money from several law firms and abused his credit and reputation in every conceivable manner in order to secure funds to feed his mining scheme, and never realized a dollar out of any of his claims.

J. W. Jones, who loaned Olson \$400, with Mrs. Olson, C. A. Miller and J. R. Hickman as sureties on the note, has filed a suit in the Circuit Court to recover the balance due, amounting to \$300 and interest. The note was executed January 6, 1904, and the interest has been paid up to January 1, 1908, together with \$100 of the principal. John F. Clark appears for Jones, and \$50 attorney's fee is also asked for. An attachment has been issued to secure the transaction.

The expected aid from a Portland man, named Levi, for Otto F. Olson, in jail on a charge of embezzlement, did not materialize. It was reported here that Levi was in a position to assist Olson; that he was a man of means, and that he owed a debt of gratitude to Olson for friendly turbs that he was eager to repay. When Levi arrived here he would not go near Olson, nor would he see Olson's attorney, and it has developed that the debt of gratitude was a debt of another sort, and that he owes Olson \$800. Olson is still in jail and will

stay there until friends in Oregon City and Willamette are able to furnish bail to the amount of \$5000. John W. Moffett is endeavoring to obtain bail for Olson. The books of the Willamette School District are being experted by E. C. Hackett, and B. Lee Paget, secretary of the Portland Trust Company of Oregon, has been scrutinizing the records of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which Olson was trustee and financial agent. The findings have not been made public.

HORTON FILES PETITION.

Former County Clerk and Postmaster Is Candidate for Assessor.

Politics is beginning to liven up and Monday George F. Horton filed his petition for the nomination of County Assessor at the Republican primaries. Mr. Horton served four years as County Clerk and one term as postmaster of Oregon City. A. M. Sinnott has declared his intention of becoming a candidate for the office of Justice of the Peace on the Republican ticket, and Justice of the Peace Stipp will not oppose him. R. L. Harbur is a candidate for the Republican nomination of Constable in District No. 4, embracing the precincts of Oregon City, Willamette, Maple Lane, Canemah and Abernethy.

CHILDREN HELP GARY IN GROWING FLOWERS

PUPILS OF COUNTY SCHOOLS ARE ENTHUSIASTIC OVER PLAN OF SUPERINTENDENT.

County Superintendent of Schools T. J. Gary has received dozens of letters from young people in the district schools all over Clackamas County offering their hearty support and cooperation of his plan for the growth of vegetables by the children, and he is deluged with applications for seeds on every hand and from every section. Fruit and flowers will be exhibited by the children at the Clackamas County Annual Fair next fall, and the department for the children originated in the mind of Mr. Gary, who is gratified at the responses that are coming in from his suggestions.

Some of the most interesting of the letters follow:

"Most of the children of our school are going to send to you for different seeds. I would like you to please send me some sweet pea seeds. I am going to plant them by the window and string them up. I have a good many flowers already. I think it is very kind of you to think of us and I hope the children will take care of them. I am in the fifth grade.

"EDITH HARVEY."

"I am a little boy 12 years of age. I



COUNTY ASSESSOR NELSON, who is a candidate for re-election and who will make a campaign on his record.

have a garden of my own and want some of your seeds very much. I will plant, hoe and take good care of them, hoping to win one of the prizes.

"CLAY C. MILLER."

To the above letter is appended the following words from the father of the boy at Highland, G. R. Miller: "I have read the above letter and approve of it. I am heartily in favor of your movement and will encourage the children all I can."

Another letter is addressed to Mr. Gary as "Dear Mr. Flower Lover," and follows:

"The people of Milwaukie have heard about how you love flowers and I love them too. I want some aster and sweet pea seeds to plant and will take good care of them, so they will grow nicely. I am in the fifth grade at school and it is easy. We used to have a big flower garden in our yard and it covered all the front of the house, and the back was full of vegetables. You are very kind to offer the seeds and I that all the people in Milwaukie ought to appreciate them. Thank you very much for the seeds.

"Will you please send me some aster and rutabaga seeds. I thought that was very kind of you to offer to send the seeds. I will take good care of them, and keep them watered and weeded. I want to get the \$5 prize if I can. I am in the fifth grade.

"BESSIE KECK."

"Please send me some sweet pea seeds which you promised the children of this county. I will take good care of the plants and exhibit them if I have success with them. I thank you very much for the seeds and I will think of your kindness when they grow and have beautiful blossoms.

"OLGA DREPS."

SECOND WEEK OF CONTEST

TWO NEW CONTESTANTS ENTER RACE AND MAKE A FINE SHOWING.

CARRIE LUTZ LEADER

Eight Popular Young Ladies of Clackamas County Are Now Engaged in the Enterprise Contest.

The result of the second week of the contest shows several changes in the order of the contestants, with two new ones entered.

Miss Carrie Lutz, who was tied for second place last week, leads the list with a small majority. Carrie has certainly been hustling some this week.

Miss Green has been indisposed and hasn't been working very hard, so



MISS LIZZIE SCHOENHEINZ.

drops into third place but she is dangerously near the leaders yet.

Miss Justin surprises everybody by jumping from down near the bottom to second place. Agnes isn't letting any grass grow under her feet.

The surprise of the week is the phenomenal start made by Miss Lucia Caffall, who has entered from Milwaukie, and has quietly lined up enough of her many friends to make a wonderful showing. Miss Caffall is a very popular young lady in Milwaukie, and is to be reckoned as a strong factor in the race.

Miss Lizzie Schoenheinz and Miss Bigham are both in the race to win, and when they get down to work and get all the prospects they have in sight closed up, it may take a lot of figuring to add up the votes.

The other new contestant is Miss Dena C. Prosser, the handsome young daughter of Postmaster Prosser, of Oswego. Miss Dena didn't decide to enter the contest until Monday, and hasn't fairly got started yet.

"Bunnie" Ownbey makes but a small gain this week. "Bunnie" is evidently waiting for the final wind-up when she will swamp the Contest Editor with innumerable votes.

The contestants are now fairly started and may be the best one win. Get in and hustle—no one has a "cinch" on any of the prizes yet.

The Marshall & Wendall Piano which was purchased from Eilers Piano House is on exhibition in the window of the Pacific Telephone Co. and is attracting more than passing attention.

The send prize—the diamond ring—may be seen any day in the window of the Standard Jewelry Co., 189 Third street, Portland.

If you haven't seen the Victor Talking Machine—the third prize—in the window of Burmeister & Andersen, the leading jewelers of Clackamas County, yet, it is because the firm wants you to come in and hear the machine play.

The result to date is as follows:

Carrie Lutz, Falls View.....13025
Agnes Justin, Oregon City.....12500
Nelva Green, Estacada.....12000
Lucia Caffall, Milwaukie.....11000
Lizzie Schoenheinz, Willamette.....9000
"Dade" Bigham, Oregon City.....8140
Dena C. Prosser, Oswego.....6000
"Bunnie" Ownby, Green Point.....4100

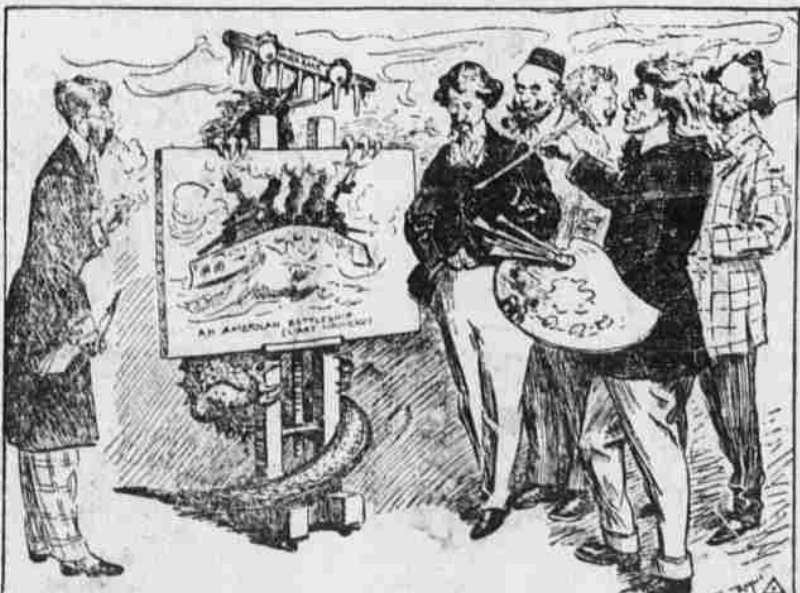
Railroad Meeting Monday.

The incorporators of the Oregon City, Beaver Creek and Molalla Railway held a meeting here yesterday and discussed the advisability of beginning active operations and set next Monday at 2 o'clock as the time for permanent organization. At Monday's meeting plans will be laid for raising funds and the commencement of actual work. Many of the rights of way have been held up and progress has been delayed, but the prospects for the future seem to be very bright.

New Restaurant Opens.

The Electric Cafe opened last night in the Electric Hotel under new management, and meals may be obtained here hereafter at all hours. The cafe will be strictly first-class in every particular and will cater to the particular appetites. Prices are reasonable. Call and procure a plate of toothsome oysters at any time.

THE MAGAZINE BOARD OF NAVAL EXPERTS.



—Rogers in New York Herald.