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OREGON CITY ENTERPRISE

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FIFTY-FOURTH YEAR No. 48.

OREGON CITY, OREGON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1920.

ESTABLISHED 1866

HILL CLUB OUT FOR RESULTS ON NEW CITY HALL

With the promise of a reduction in insurance rate, mercantile section of the hill, of the fire apparatus is housed as planned, the Hill Improve Club is making arrangements to present the matter of building the city hall in McLoughlin Park, as decided on by the voters at the last election.

A committee composed of W. L. Little, John Scott, Duane Ely, Carl Green, and Albert Estes, representing the improvement club, and Councilmen Bridges, Albright and Petzold, representing the city, called on the insurance underwriters bureau in Portland Monday, and secured opinions concerning the much-contested proposition. Under the conditions of the statements issued by the bureau, the 7 per cent reduction would affect the business on the hill, with the possibility that the fire zone might be extended later to include a greater portion of the residential section, provided the fire hydrants were properly placed. A reduction of from 5 to 6 per cent for the downtown section of the city would be granted along with the hill reduction if the city hall is built in the park, stated James N. McCune secretary of the Oregon Insurance Rating Bureau, the underwriters who regulate the rates.

The preference of the bureau, stated McCune, is to have the apparatus housed in the downtown section, and a reduction of 7 per cent is virtually assured on all business property of the truck is put there. The fact that the railroad track has to be crossed in responding to a downtown alarm from the hill and that Singer Hill is subject to slides which might interfere with traffic, has much to do with the final establishment of a rate, stated McCune.

According to Carl Green, member of the improvement club and one of the leaders in the fight to secure the new city hall for McLoughlin Park, the hill residents may be able to absorb the bond issue, if the business district does not respond to the sale. It is understood that the club has had the matter up with private purchasers and have been given to understand that the issue can be floated.

The outcome of the committee's visit to Portland will be shown at the next council meeting, when statements from the underwriters will be available for action by the council and the intention of the hill club is to have them push the erection of the hall as fast as possible.

TRAFFIC LAW ENFORCEMENT IS TOO DRASTIC

A clashing of opinions that promises to develop into a revision of a city ordinance came into being here Saturday when Chief of Police Scott ordered a number of automobile drivers to report to the police judge for parking their cars on Seventh street, between Main and the railroad. An ordinance prohibiting such parking has been on the city statutes for the past two months, enacted upon the petition of a number of business houses on the street affected, but it is understood that a "gentlemen's agreement" was entered into between members of the council and the petitioners that the ordinance would not be strictly enforced, and that only when congestion became dangerous to traffic was the chief to call a halt.

Practically all the cars parked on the street Saturday were labeled with tags by Chief Scott, citing the drivers to appear and be fined. Scott has come out with the declaration that the ordinance is to be enforced, and it is understood that he has the backing of Police Judge Loder, who either wants the ordinance to be enforced to the letter or repealed from the books.

The Pacific Highway Garage, recently opened on the street, has been cited as the instigators of the petition, but they, in company with a number of other business houses which signed the document, declare that the enforcement of the ordinance is not in keeping with the original intentions.

That some legislation is necessary to keep the traffic congestion from becoming dangerous is agreed, but they maintain that the drastic action of the chief of police is unnecessary.

What the outcome of the squabble may be cannot be foretold. Judge Loder has taken the cases under advisement and has as yet assessed no fines. In event he does fine those arrested there will probably be injunctions filed to prevent the further enforcement of the measure, as sentiment over the matter is aroused to a high point.

MRS. PETZOLD PAYS \$1

Mrs. R. Petzold was fined \$1 in Judge Loder's court Friday for parking her machine too near the fire hydrant on Main street.

BRIDGE HOURS FOR CLOSING ARE CHANGED

The county court here has changed the hours for the closing of the suspension bridge to vehicle traffic as follows: 8:00 to 9:00 o'clock in the morning and from 4:00 to 5:00 o'clock in the afternoon. This will be in effect until further notice, as the suspension bridge is in a weakened condition. The court also ruled that not more than 2 1/2 tons will be allowed upon the bridge at any one time.

PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER FACES FEDERAL CHARGE

Alvin Shagren, physical director of the Corvallis public schools, was arrested last Saturday by Deputy United States Marshal E. T. Mass charged with sending obscene literature through the mails. Shagren was brought to Eugene, where he put up \$500 cash bail for his liberty awaiting the action of the federal grand jury.

The letter Shagren is accused of sending was addressed to a prominent woman high in society circles in Portland, and federal officials are keeping her name from the public. Postoffice Inspector, E. C. Clement, signed the complaint for Shagren's arrest, and the letter is said to contain a discussion of family relations between her and her husband. The warrant was issued by United States Commissioner Kenneth Frazer, Deputy Mass arrived in Oregon City from Eugene Monday evening.

WHEAT GROWERS TO PROFIT BY PRICE INCREASE

Wheat farmers of the Pacific northwest, with half of their crops still unsold, stand a good chance to realize much more on their grain than seemed likely a week or two ago. Prices have advanced 25 cents a bushel in the last week and with the attention of buyers in the east and in Europe turned this way, it is entirely possible that prices will go still higher.

Unsatisfactory crop prospects in the southern hemisphere seem to be responsible for the present flurry in the wheat market. So evenly balanced have supplies and demand been in the United States and Canada that grain exports months ago declared that if anything went wrong south of the equator, wheat prices would start climbing again. The buyers for the European governments—particularly Great Britain—evidently feared that such a thing might happen and they overlooked no opportunity to bear down American prices and buy as cheaply as they could. Now, when there is evidence that the southern wheat yield will not be as large as anticipated, there is a great scramble to get possession of the grain.

SEAL CAMPAIGN ENCOURAGED BY ALL IN COUNTY

The sale of Christmas seals this season is now on in Clackamas county and the school children are making rapid headway in getting rid of the quota for this vicinity. Several awards are up for the student making the greatest number of sales, and interest is kept all along the line.

About 50,000 seals were turned over to City Supt. Kirk, who gave to each scholar in the Oregon City schools the proper allotment to dispose of. Twenty-five per cent of the gross receipts from the sales will be turned over to Clackamas county.

Mrs. A. McDonald, president of the Clackamas County Health association, has charge of the sales in Oregon City; Mrs. J. R. Lewthwaite has charge of West Linn, Bolton and Willamette districts; and Mrs. David Cauffman has charge of the balance of the county.

RACE SUICIDE TO STOP IF BONUS BILL CARRIES

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—The passage of the American Legion's fourfold bonus bill would be a big step toward removing the menace of race suicide as the assertion made by an ex-serviceman in a letter to the American Legion Weekly.

"Without financial backing or pull, the veteran is lucky if he can care for himself and wife," the letter reads. "Consequently children are not to be thought of until normal times are reached and few can guess when that will be. There are a good many young couples that are looking forward to compensation as a means of making it possible for them to become fathers and mothers of future American citizens."

HOLMAN URGES CLACKAMAS TO SAVE ON FARM

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 6.—(Editor of the Enterprise).—"Carrying a total of \$547,150 for roads and bridges and \$10,000 as the nucleus of a fund for the purchase of a county poor farm, the annual budget for county expenditures has been passed by the Clackamas County court, and will be discussed at a taxpayers' meeting called for December 28 at the courthouse." So runs a news item in the Sunday Journal.

I wish to most respectfully suggest that Clackamas County make arrangements with Multnomah County for the board and lodging of its indigent poor, rather than make the expenditure proposed. I believe that Multnomah County can give Clackamas County this service at a cost to Clackamas County possibly less than Clackamas County can itself supply the service, for the reason that Multnomah County is already established in this work and is caring for about 300 inmates a day now. I believe that the larger the number the less the per inmate day cost. Moreover, by such an arrangement Clackamas County will be saved the entire cost of the investment for lands, buildings and equipment. Multnomah County already has given similar service to several other counties in the state, and with the good roads available between Oregon City and the Multnomah County Farm, I see no obstacle in the way of my suggestion, providing it is received with approval by Clackamas County. Moreover, I wish to advise you that a report has just been prepared by a committee appointed by the Governor, of which I am a member, recommending that rather than each of the thirty-six counties of the state operating its own individual County poor farm, that there be three or four institutions of this nature located at those places in the state which are most convenient for the purpose.

RUFUS C. HOLMAN,
County Commissioner.

BUDGET FAILS TO PROVIDE FOR A COUNTY AGENT

No appropriations have been made in the county budget for the coming year for a club leader or county agent, although last year these two offices were provided for. Members of the county court, in explaining the elimination of those two items, allege that no funds are available to carry on the work and that the county is hard up for money. If the county agent and county club leader hold their positions here for the next year, it will be up to the taxpayers to retain them by voting at the budget meeting to be held in the courthouse on the 28th of this month.

In reviewing the work done through the county agent's office during the past two years, County Agent Scott has submitted the following report:

Mole campaign—In 2 years handled 4596 moleskins three county agent's office, with a value of \$1030.47. Damage saved by destruction of the mole is about \$4000.

Squirrel campaign—In 2 years poison has been distributed over 1500 acres, at a saving of at least 7500 bushel grain worth \$15000. Some sections still badly infested.

Canada Thistle Work—Last year 467 farmers signed petitions to have Canada Thistles controlled in 19 can municipalities. There are Canada Thistles in nearly every school district. The County Agent devoted 21 days to this work in 1920 at no expense to the county for salary or travel. Out of an appropriation of \$600 for the work only \$110 was used, this going to the deputy weed officers.

Dairy Improvement—Clackamas County Guernseys and Jerseys get their share of the ribbons wherever shown. Largely due to the County Agent, the Clackamas County Jersey herd won first place at the Pacific International Livestock Show. There is a much greater interest in better dairying than there was two years ago.

Poultry Work—In 1920 there were held 9 culling demonstrations, at which 2650 hens were examined and 858 culled out as nonlayers, with a saving of feed of over \$826, and the same production of eggs. Probably four times this many hens were culled out by those who attended the meetings.

Seed Improvement—\$2 acres of grain certified, with increased value of \$700.

Soil Improvement—Over 6 carloads of fertilizer used as a result of fertilizer demonstrations, covering about 1200 acres, with an average increase of 10 per cent in crops.

490 personal calls on Agent at his office in 1920.

133 farm visits made by Agent.

106 Meetings held, with a total attendance of 4084.

688 personal letters written in regard to farm problems.

County Agent worked an average

The Wronged Farmer

Of all economic classes, the farmers are hit hardest in the readjustment of values. They are thoroughly justified in kicking, if anybody is.

Consider the fact that within a few months, wheat, corn, oats, cotton, hogs and some other leading staples have dropped to less than 50 per cent of the price they had been commanding. The farmer's income for the year has been cut in half. No wage-earners, hardly any salary-workers and few merchants or manufacturers are so badly off as that.

Consider also that so far, there is little on the other side of the ledger to make up for the loss. While the farmer has half, or less than half, as much for his product as he got last year and expected to get this year, and in numberless cases less than it cost him to produce the stuff, he is obliged to pay nearly as much as ever for the things he has to buy.

As producer, he is first to be hit by the readjustment of prices; as consumer, he will be about the last to enjoy the benefit by that readjustment. He is doubly oppressed. He has to sell at the ruinously low prices offered him, and he has to buy at the ruinously high prices still demanded. Standing at both ends of the economic trinity, he is preyed on doubly by middlemen—they take their toll of what he sells and what he buys.

All this will be straightened out in the long run. Things always are. But don't blame the farmers for getting "het up" in the meantime. They usually have reason for complaint, and just now they have far more than usual.

All the conscientious objectors are now at liberty. They were given their freedom by Mr. Baker as a Thanksgiving testimonial of his regard for them and reverence for their convictions. They will soon be merged with the rest of the public, and will not be distinguished from returned heroes who risked their lives that those cowards might not be exposed to danger.

Why not let the League of Nations take that Mesopotamian oil that statesmen are making such a row about, and keep it to pour on the troubled waters?

There may yet be a constitutional amendment requiring everybody to go to church on Sunday. Better start now, and get used to it.

Might almost think Armenia was a load of coal, it's so hard to get anyone to agree to deliver her promptly.

PHYSICIANS ARE AT LOGGERHEADS IN DEFORD CASE

The doctors of Oregon City are likely to don gas masks and steel helmets if the controversy over the death of Alexander DeFord is prolonged. DeFord was shot on the night of Sunday, November 21, by D. E. Frost, steward at the Moose Club, while resisting arrest, and was taken to the Oregon City Hospital by Dr. O. A. Welsh, county health officer, who attended DeFord until his death on the following Tuesday morning. Dr. Welsh maintains that DeFord's death was caused by confluent pneumonia, similar to that of the type found in pneumonia following flu.

When Dr. Hugh S. Mount was called by the DeFord family to perform an autopsy, the Battle of the Physicians was on in earnest, and is still waging.

The body of DeFord was taken to an undertaking establishment in Sellwood, and upon request of the family of the deceased, Dr. Mount and his associate, Dr. Edward H. McLean, went to Sellwood Tuesday night and held a post-mortem. There the matter rested until Friday, when Coroner E. L. Johnson ordered an inquest.

On the day of DeFord's death, the coroner and District Attorney Gilbert L. Hedges had a conference and agreed that an inquest was an unnecessary expense, but Mr. Johnson says that a number of people came to him and advised that an inquest be held, and that he finally took up the matter with County Judge Anderson, who sanctioned the holding of an inquest. On Friday morning Ivan Rittenhouse and his wife, the latter a sister of DeFord, came to the coroner and urged that an inquest be held, but told Johnson that if Dr. Mount's testimony concerning the result of the autopsy was desired, that the county would have to pay the expense of the post-mortem, amounting to \$25. The arrangement between Dr. Mount and the DeFord family was, according to Coroner Johnson, that the family would pay the bill, and that they had expected all along to pay it, but if the county should get the benefit of the information derived, it was no more than right that the county should pay the cost of the post-mortem examination.

On Friday, the day of the inquest, Coroner Johnson telephoned to Dr. Mount and asked him if he would testify at the inquest and Dr. Mount agreed to give his evidence, but confirmed Rittenhouse in his statement to Johnson that the county must pay for the autopsy in the event they obtained the benefit of his testimony.

ASSESSMENT ON PUBLIC UTILITIES LOWERED HERE

Assessed valuation of public utilities in Clackamas county has been reduced by the state tax board, according to W. B. Cook, county assessor. The 1920 valuation has been set at \$5,369,623.11 which is \$120,278.44 less than for the year 1919. Of this amount, the holdings of the P. R. L. & P. company have been assessed by the commission \$68,233 lower than last year.

This will mean that Clackamas county will lose a revenue in taxes for the coming year of several thousand dollars.

The figures which Assessor Cooke will make assessment on public utilities for 1920 have been approved by the state tax commission, and the amounts have been sent in to Cooke for reference in making up his roll for the coming year.

LA GRANDE, Or., Dec. 3.—Robbers early today broke into the State bank of Imbler, Or., 16 miles from this city, and made an ineffectual attempt to dynamite the safe, and escaped after breaking into a barber shop and jewelry store and stealing valuable articles.

The yeggmen rode away in a seven-passenger automobile which they had stolen from a garage operated by "Boots" Squires. Part of the loot and the automobile were recovered in the outskirts of La Grande this morning, and Sheriff Warnick tried to trace the robbers with bloodhounds, but the dogs lost the scent.

The authorities believe the robbers first broke into the garage, where they stole the automobile and tools used on the bank safe. The lock on the safe withstood the dynamite charge and the yeggmen evidently abandoned the attempt.

should be countenanced as it reflects upon the medical profession when allowed to continue unchecked.

O. A. WELSH
M. C. STRICKLAND
A. H. HUYCKE
C. H. MEISSNER
W. ROSS EATON
C. A. STUART
GEO. E. STUART, M. D.

The county court paid the bill, after hearing statements from Dr.

DRY LAW SAID EFFECTIVE FOR HOLIDAY PIES

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—The question of the legality of flavoring Christmas mince pie and other holiday delicacies with brandy, wine and other liquors was characterized by K. B. Hagen, federal prohibition enforcement officer here today, as "foolish question No. 23,912."

"The law is supreme and the law is plain," he declared. "Use of brandy in holiday mince pies and use of wine in Christmas sauces are illegal. The law says nothing about Christmas."

CAPTURED SPY SENT TO U. S. BY GERMAN STAFF

NEW YORK, Dec. 7.—Sensational disclosures of his mission to this country as a spy for the German government were given in an alleged confession by John Willers, formerly captain in Company I, 48th United States Infantry, alleged thief and deserter, after his arrest here tonight, charged with absconding with \$5000 of his company funds on December 19, 1918. His regiment was then stationed at Camp Sevier, Greenville, S. C.

His capture was accidental. He was crossing Fifth avenue at Forty-second street, when Hugh J. Hannigan, formerly a lieutenant in Willers' company, recognized him, and called a policeman and Willers was arrested.

At a police station the prisoner was further identified by two other ex-lieutenants in company I, Sidney P. Howell and Francis Hatch. Willers was then taken to Governors Island and placed in confinement at Fort Jay.

Willers, the police said, recited in a brazen fashion how he was sent to the United States as one of 300 cadets trained in acts of espionage to enlist in the American army.

On his arrival in the United States, Willers went to Albany where he enlisted, he said, as a private. His military aptitude won him rapid promotion and his knowledge of English and his ability to "speak like an American" enabled him to obtain a commission.

LIVE WIRES WILL PROTEST RISE IN PHONE CHARGES

The matter of increased telephone rates was given the "once over" at the Live Wires meeting Tuesday noon, and a committee has been appointed to investigate the matter and present resolutions for action at the next meeting. The enforcement of the club will be given the committee's report, and they will be authorized to represent the commercial club at the hearing on the company's application, to be held in Portland on December 21st. On the committee, appointed by President L. A. Morris of the commercial club, and endorsed by Main Trunk Parker of the Live Wires, are Will T. Wright, Grant B. Dimick, E. E. Brodie, M. D. Latourette, and J. R. Humphreys.

An idea of what the rate increase means to Oregon City and the state in general was gained by the Wires when a member's computation showed that his increase on phones at his office and home would amount to \$30 annually. This is for a single phone at each place, and other business men would be similarly affected, some of them paying much more, according to the class of service and the matter of extension phones maintained.

T. B. Hayhurst, local manager of the Pacific Telephone company, explained in some measure the needs for increased revenue. A motion to invite representatives from the telephone company to explain the situation from their angle at the next meeting was voted down, on the argument that the action of the Wires should be based on the strict matter of economy and the increase as it would affect local business.

An informal report from the unloading-platform committee showed progress. The state public service commission has taken the matter up with the railroad company and relief is in sight, according to the report. The trouble encountered in unloading stock and automobiles here has been of long standing and the committee has worked hard to secure some action from the company.

FRUIT INDUSTRY OF OREGON HAS MADE GREAT ADVANCE

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Dec. 3.—(Special to the Enterprise).—That the fruit industry in Oregon and the northwest has made great strides, was indicated by W. S. Brown, chief in horticulture at the college, who spoke before prominent scientists at the conference of the northwest section of the Western Society of Naturalists. Many leading scientists from Oregon, Washington and Idaho institutions were present. The next meeting will be held at the University of Washington, Seattle.

From 1850 to 1870, said Professor Brown, fabulous prices were received for fruit, one box of apples having been sold for as high as \$75, while in 1855, 600 bushels of apples sold for prices ranging from \$20 to \$30 a bushel. In 1909 there were 4,000,423 bushels of fruit in the state valued at \$3,340,000, while in 1919 there was produced, according to the best information obtainable some 9,000,000 bushels of orchard fruit with a valuation of approximately \$14,000,000. The total fruit crop of the state for 1920 will run not far from \$25,000,000 to \$30,000,000.

MERCHANT SEES BRIGHT FUTURE FOR COMING YEAR

"The Christmas trade this year will be equal, if not greater than the year before the war," said a prominent merchant of Oregon City Friday. "Although large business interests have been caught with high priced goods in their stores during the last six months, and were practically forced to sell at a loss, nevertheless, the outlook for the coming year is the brightest from all angles since before the war period," he said.

"Times are rapidly approaching normal again, and although prices will not go down as low as they were this time five years ago, a basis has already been reached which is proving satisfactory to the merchant as well as to the buyer, and people now show greater confidence in buying goods than they have shown during any time the past five years."

\$100,000 FOR LIQUOR SENT TO CANADA

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 2.—One hundred thousand dollars for Christmas liquor has arrived in Vancouver, B. C. from buyers in Seattle and Portland, it was reported in the Can-