

OREGON CITY ENTERPRISE

FIFTY-SIXTH YEAR. No. 9.

OREGON CITY, OREGON, FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 1922.

ESTABLISHED 1866

S. P. WILL NOT MAKE EXTENSION INTO WEST LINN

Connection from Willamette To Tracks Near Oswego Is Impractical Under Present Conditions Says Railroad.

NO EXPANSIONS ARE CONTEMPLATED NOW

Improvement of Main Line at Bolton Also to be Held Up For an Indefinite Period.

No extension of the Southern Pacific tracks to give a direct rail connection from West Linn to Portland, will be made at the present time. This work has been received by the city of West Linn following negotiations with the railroad to secure the extension.

The city of West Linn, backed by other communities upon the west side asked the railroad to join the present Willamette line with the tracks extending to Oswego. This would necessitate construction of an additional roadbed for about three quarters of a mile.

Plan is Old One

The Southern Pacific at present operates a car line to Willamette through a subsidiary company and they also run a west side local line into Oswego. The move to secure the connection between these two tracks and the operation of trains to Portland had its inception a number of years ago when the lines were first constructed. It was understood at that time that the link would be completed at some future date, and there have been periodical attempts to get the railroad to carry its plans on the west side to completion. A new attempt to get direct Portland service was made about two months ago.

It is understood that while the actual construction work itself would not involve a large expenditure, the company is not prone to make any improvements at the present time other than those actually necessary to the upkeep of the roads. Residents of West Linn and vicinity claim that there would be sufficient passenger and freight travel to justify the extension but the railroad has made no survey of conditions, stating that regardless of the individual case, no construction can be considered.

Main Line Talked

The Southern Pacific at present has a four track line of way between Bolton and West Linn. It is believed that ultimately the main line will be shifted to the west side of the Willamette. At present it runs through Oregon City. It is probable that plans for development there are being held up pending the inauguration of the larger project, although the company has indicated that no improvements on the main line are contemplated at the present time.

In the construction of the Pacific Highway, a portion from the west end of the bridge was left unimproved as it was believed that the Southern Pacific might enlarge its present tracks along the main right-of-way, necessitating an overhead crossing. The company however, assumed the highway commission that no such work was planned and arrangements were made for the construction of a grade crossing and the completion of the pavement during the present year.

City officials on the west side regard these two statements of the company as an indication that no railroad development there is to be hoped for for some time.

DELINQUENT TAXES LOW IN CLACKAMAS COUNTY

The standing of Clackamas county in the matter of delinquent taxes is third lowest in the state. A commission appointed to inquire into this subject have published a comparative table showing that the total delinquencies for this county are \$31,283.40, or 5.3 per cent.

Only Sherman and Linn have smaller amounts delinquent than Clackamas.

The delinquent tax problem has been the subject of repeated discussion among the commissioners. Records of the commission show that the delinquency is the greatest in the history of the state. This delinquency is one of the factors which is causing the incessant protest against high taxes and which is spurring the commission to find some relief for real property by a state income tax.

Figures submitted Monday were to the effect that federal information disclosed that under a property tax only one-third of those able to pay are reached. The government statistics said that 37 per cent of the taxes came from property of all sorts, while 63 per cent came from professional people, salaries and the like, reached under the income tax.

TAX REDUCTION LEAGUE HEAD NAMES OFFICERS

5 Vice-Presidents Chosen for Clackamas County Division of State-Wide Association.

Complete organization of the Clackamas county division of the Oregon State Tax Reduction League was announced Monday by Henry Thiesen of Milwaukie, Route 1. Thiesen was elected president of the local organization at a meeting held here last week and was authorized to name six vice chairmen to complete the personnel of the branch here.

The following have been named: C. E. Spence, Beaver Creek; Matt C. Glover, Boling, Route 1; H. G. Starkweather, Oak Grove; George H. Grover, Canby Route 2; George Askins, Aurora. The sixth vice chairman, according to the announcement, is to be named at some future date, but the work of the organization is to proceed with the present officers.

ERECTION OF NEW SPAN ADVANCES BRIDGE WORK

Highway Engineer Condemns Report that Plans Made for Structure Here Are Unsafe.

The south steel span for the new Oregon City-West Linn arch across the Willamette river, was completely erected Tuesday, and although there is considerable riveting to be done, it marks the first comprehensive step in the construction of the new bridge. The north arch will be erected in one or two days as only a few more sections of the fabricated steel are to be placed.

Engineers here express the opinion that the bridge will be completed well within the specified time limit, which means that it will probably be open to traffic by January 1, 1923.

SALEM, Feb. 28.—Herbert Nunn, state highway engineer, yesterday scouted at reports that the plans on which the bridge over the Willamette river at Oregon City is being constructed are unsafe.

No question has ever been raised. Mr. Nunn declared, except with relation to navigation possibilities at times of high water. This was raised by the Live Wires an organization of Oregon City business men.

"We consulted records," said Mr. Nunn, "and found that the bridge as designed will admit of navigation for any height of water except a point it has reached just once in the last 40 years. It is impossible to raise the deck of the bridge so that it would admit of navigation at that stage, which would probably be a period of two or three days in the 40 years. The next highest point the river has reached, has been recorded eight times in the last 40 years, and the bridge will admit of navigation at that mark."

"To check against our figures the department employed two outside engineers to make an investigation relative to high water. The engineers were S. Murray, bridge engineer for the Oregon-Washington Railroad and Navigation company, and Forsythe, who was recommended by Murray. They made a number of recommendations, all of which we already had complied with except some minor ones that we couldn't agree with them on."

"The bridge engineers of our department are considered the best in the state and have built 800 bridges, none of which has ever fallen down."

HISTORIC HOLMES PARK SOLD TO E. E. KELLOGG

E. E. Kellogg, of Mount Pleasant, whose home is about three miles from this city, has purchased eight acres in the Holmes D. L. C., this being the last of the estate of the late William and Mary Holmes, early Oregon pioneers, who crossed the plains in the early days by ox team. This land, just purchased by Mr. Kellogg, extends from the head of Fifth street in this city to the road fronting the historic old home, known far and wide as Rose Farm, which is now owned by Mrs. J. A. Roman, and purchased several years ago by the late J. A. Roman.

The property purchased by Mr. Kellogg is known as Holmes park, an ideal location for a city park, and has running water flowing through, forming a most picturesque place.

LEGION HEAD SLIGHTED

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—President Harding this morning declined to see Hanford MacNider, national commander of the American Legion, who came to the White House to demand that the present deadlock over the soldier bonus be ended.

MAN'S SKELETON FOUND IN WOODS BARES MYSTERY

Louis Larsen, Missing Since 1919 Known to have Killed Self; Remains Found Near Fisher Ranch at Redland.

ROTTED ROPE SHOWS METHOD OF SUICIDE

Watch Forms Chief Means of Identification; Friends Tell of His Despondency.

Discovery of the skeleton of a man who had evidently committed suicide by hanging himself to a tree, is believed by local officials to have solved the mystery of the disappearance of Louis Larsen, an employee on the Otto W. Fisher ranch at Redland and a twin brother of Peter Larsen, of Portland.

Larsen disappeared on November 14, 1919. He had been in the United States for four years, coming from Sweden where he was born in 1885. For two years he had lived on the Fisher place. Despondency over ill health is believed to have caused his death.

The skeleton was identified by a watch and personal effects which had fallen to the ground when the clothing rotted away. The bones themselves were lying on the grass, with a piece of rope around the neck. The other end of the rotted strands was knotted about the tree.

The remains were discovered Sunday by Fisher who was walking through the woods about 200 yards from his home. The watch and a few other trinkets were identified by Albert Johnson, a friend of Redlands, with whom Larsen had lived for some time after disposing of some property in Gladstone for \$2,000 which was deposited with a Portland bank.

After some investigation conducted Monday, Coroner O. A. Pace announced that the case was plainly one of suicide. The disappearance of the man caused considerable excitement, and the officers made a wide search, but up to Sunday, no trace of him had ever been discovered except the fence tools which he had dropped when he left his work.

Funeral services are to be held in Portland.

LIGHT BRIDGE ACCEPTED BY CLACKAMAS COUNTY

With the payment of the \$4,500 subscribed by local industrial plants toward the temporary Willamette river bridge, the structure has been accepted by the county court.

The heaviest contributor to the fund for constructing the bridge was the city of West Linn, which gave \$5,000. Other contributions were as follows: Oregon City, \$4,500; Clackamas county, \$4,000; Portland Railway, Light & Power company, \$1,000; Crown-Willamette Paper company, \$2,000; Hawley Pulp & Paper company, \$800; Oregon City Manufacturing company, \$400.

The Crown-Willamette company paid the Portland Bridge company and J. W. Moffatt \$150 each for work on plans for the structure, prior to the adoption of the design on which the bridge was built.

LOCAL TEACHERS NAMED UPON STATE COMMITTEE

Three Clackamas county teachers have been appointed upon standing committees of the Oregon State Teachers' Association, which were announced Monday by President C. A. Howard, of Marshfield.

John L. Gary, principal of the Union high school at West Linn, has been named on committee on investigations. Mrs. Minnie B. Altman, principal at Jennings Lodge has been appointed upon the finance committee, and Mrs. E. C. Shaw, teacher in one of the rural schools, has been chosen as a member of the rural school consolidation committee.

3 LOCAL MEN TO SERVE ON FEDERAL GRAND JURY

J. J. Hutton, Oregon City; W. W. Everhart, Molalla and John W. Kollis, Scotts Mills, are among the names drawn for the new federal grand jury which has been called for March 6th at Portland.

District Attorney Livy Stimp has issued a summons for the grand jury of Clackamas county to assemble March 1.

IMPROVEMENT IS SEEN IN INTEREST IN REAL ESTATE

Inquiries from a number of different states regarding the possibilities of settling in Clackamas county and requesting information upon this district, which were presented to the Clackamas County Realty Board last night, are regarded as a sign of increased interest in this locality. Although information upon commercial conditions is requested, a desire for facts concerning the agricultural possibilities here took precedence. The letters were presented to the realtors by L. A. Henderson as secretary of the local Commercial Club.

The meeting, which was held in the Commercial Club rooms, was presided over by S. O. Dillman, newly elected president of the organization.

Realty Standards Talked

J. H. Mariels, vice-president of the Portland Realty board spoke on the value of organization among real estate dealers. He pointed out that the formation of boards had done an incalculable amount towards the elevation of this industry, it had eliminated the unscrupulous dealer and afforded an opportunity for the handling of the problems which were incidental to their profession.

The need of more settlers in Oregon and the resultant benefits which would accrue to each community were shown by Mr. Mariels to be the main consideration of all realty organizations in the state.

He urged all members of the Clackamas county board to put their best endeavor into the effort to promote the well being of this community, which he considered would in time grow to be a formidable competitor of his own town.

Auto Park Plan Advanced

C. H. Brockman, secretary of the Portland Realty board offered a suggestion to the members with respect to the auto park. His idea was that a member should be appointed by the board to attend at the park every evening during the tourist season and outline to the visitors some of the attractive features of Oregon City or the immediate vicinity. He also urged the members to pay due attention to the letters which had been read by the secretary and instance an example in his own experience showing the value of attending to these communications.

An expression of opinion from the members as to joining for the exchange of properties showed that they were unanimously in favor of this move. Mr. Brockman explained that at the next meeting of the Northwest Realty association the question of this bureau would be brought up and that he was desirous of having the views of the Clackamas county body so that he could in turn place them before the Northwest association.

1925 Site Discussed

The claims of Milwaukie as a suitable site for the Portland exhibition were dilated upon by Mrs. Maggie Johnson who said that this particular part of Clackamas county surpassed in every point any of the proposed locations. Whilst admitting that it seemed as if the financing of the festival had to be by the subscription she still thought that the proposition of raising funds by taxation was not altogether a lost cause.

Mr. Mariels gave it as his opinion that the fair would be held without doubt and developments could be looked for after the primaries were held as at the present moment the fair was something in the nature of a pipe dream.

The chairman announced that the next meeting of the board would be held March 1.

LOOP ROAD IS DELAYED BY SHORTAGE OF FUNDS

PORTLAND, Feb. 27.—Definite action on the proposal to give \$85,000 toward the construction of the Mount Hood loop road was delayed yesterday by the Multnomah county commissioners after Roadmaster Eatchel had submitted a financial statement showing that the road fund is extremely short of cash at the present time.

There is now but \$290,000 in the road fund, of which \$208,000 has been set aside for market roads. If the Mount Hood loop is designated as a market road, it is possible that the commissioners will transfer the \$85,000 from this fund. The commission decided to get a ruling on this question before taking further steps in carrying out the agreement with the state highway commission. Even though it is determined that the Mount Hood loop is a market road, there is no certainty that the commissioners will give financial aid to the project, in view of the fact that the tax conservation commission eliminated this item from the annual budget.

"I am not yet satisfied that we can't carry out our promise to the highway commission," said Commissioner Holman. "I'm going to look into this thing and see if there is not some fund from which we can draw \$85,000, or some part of it. The action of the tax conserving and conservation commission in slashing the budget of \$85,000 for the Mt. Hood loop has put us in a hole, but there may yet be some way out."

COURT REMOVES PROTECTION FOR ROADS IN COUNTY

No Traffic Officer Provided to Succeed Waggy; Highway Open to Abuse of Speeders and Overloaders of Trucks.

DISPUTE SEEMS TO REMAIN UNSETTLED

Appointment of 2 Cops Held Impossible on Account of Action of Budget Meeting.

Clackamas county is without traffic protection. The highways at present are uncontrolled save for the occasional visits of men from the state office. This condition has existed for nearly a month, following the discharging of H. W. Waggy, who was serving as a state officer under the direction of the county court.

As yet no successor to Waggy has been named and constant complaints are said to be coming in concerning the abuse of the highways by speeders and overloaders. The squabble over the traffic officership originated last July when the county court and the sheriff's office had a tangle over the official personnel. The court discharged Carl J. Long from the position, but Sheriff Wilson refused to remove him as deputy. The court then appointed Waggy. A state appointment as an officer was secured for Waggy, and Long's pay as a traffic officer cut off. Long was then retained for special work by Wilson.

No explanation of the relieving of Waggy about the first of February is made. Waggy instituted suit for the collection of his pay, but no further warrants for traffic officer's service have been issued by the court.

It is understood that the court is to make an appointment in the near future, but no hopes are held for more than one traffic cop as the taxpayers at the 1922 budget meeting cut the appropriation for two officers in half.

CHAUTAUQUA OPENING TO BE JUNE 24 THIS YEAR

The Gladstone Chautauqua this year will open its gates for the twenty-ninth assembly Saturday, June 24, the earliest date in the history of the organization. This will give two Sunday sessions. The earlier date is chosen in order to secure the thirteen day program of the Ellison-White Chautauqua system.

Improvements contemplated before opening day will be an ornamental fence with iron gates for auto entrances along the west side. An entrance on Eighty-second street is also considered.

Mrs. Eva Emery Dye's symposium again will be one of the main features of the Chautauqua, the hour from 4 to 5 o'clock every afternoon except Sunday being assigned for this purpose.

One of the attractions for the evening of the opening day will be a magician. Opie Read is also billed to appear during the session.

LIBBY BOY IS SERIOUSLY HURT IN ACCIDENT HERE

Clarence Libby, 19-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Libby residing on Oak street, Oregon City met with a very serious accident Thursday while swinging on a rope near Farr's slaughter house. The rope broke and he fell striking the side of his face against a log.

Drs. Huyck and Strickland were called and the lad was taken to their offices where he remained unconscious for sixteen hours. Later he was removed to the home of his parents. The extent of the lad's injuries have not yet been determined as he is still in a very critical condition.

Twenty-Two Skins Furnish \$56 Bounty To Molalla Hunters

The largest scalp bounty, paid by Clackamas county in a number of years, was claimed here Friday by Les Loobey and E. O. Russell, of Molalla. They collected a total of \$56 on 22 pelts.

The animals represent the result of the trappers activities in a district about 25 miles from Molalla, since November 1921. They killed four male coyotes, four female coyotes and 14 bobcats. On the bobcats there is a bounty of \$2 each while on the male coyotes the county pays \$3 and for the females \$4.

VEHICLE LOAD LIMIT IS CUT BY COUNTY COURT

Vehicle Weight Is Reduced To 3,000 Pounds; Certain Roads Only Are Affected.

A new limit for vehicle loads upon certain roads in Clackamas county has been established by the county court, in an order which was filed here Friday. According to the order, the limit for auto loads is 2,000 pounds and the weight of the vehicle must not exceed 3,000 pounds. The 2,000 pound limit applies to both loads and vehicles in the case of a horse drawn wagon. No horse drawn vehicle carrying over a 1,000 pound load can have tires narrower than four inches.

The roads included in the order are Donahue and Oregon City road, Kelly-Epperson road, market roads, one, three and seven, Beaver Creek-Clarks road, Beaver Creek-Highland road, Eldorado-Canby road, Molalla-Willhoi road, Molalla-Russellville road, Bluff road in district 23, Molalla and Dickey prairie road and the Molalla and Meadowbrook road.

CHIEF TELLS LIVE WIRES OF DANGERS FROM FIRE

Veteran In Forceful Speech Speaks on Remedy Needed To Protect Against Risk.

The necessity for active work in the prevention of fire, and the many hazards which exist in every building and home, were shown Tuesday noon by Jay Stevens, chief of the Pacific Bureau of Fire Prevention in his talk before the Live Wires of the Commercial club.

From a lifetime of war against fire and from experience in actual fire work and the study of fire prevention methods, Chief Stevens, in a talk which was free from incomprehensive statistics, told of the danger to life and property which existed through the carelessness of the ordinary person. He dwelt particularly upon the loss of life throughout the nation, and showed the simple precautions which could be taken to reduce the menace.

A number of illustrations gathered through actual experience, were thrown upon a screen and in simple and compelling language the veteran fireman showed the foolhardy risks taken through mere neglect.

One particularly interesting case he described was where two reports had been received by his office of women being burned to death while polishing a cold stove. Investigation developed the fact that although the stoves were really cold, the type of liquid polish used was inflammable, and the vapors had been exploded through the friction of wool or silk polishing rags. He then produced a sample of the polish, which pointed on a paper napkin, was set on fire by being brought within two inches of a flame. A number of similar concrete examples followed. Mr. Stevens also spoke in the schools and at a local theatre.

CENTRALIA MAN BUYS INTEREST IN LAUNDRY

A. H. Prang, for the past few years a part owner in the Oregon City Laundry has sold his interest to R. A. Schofield, of Centralia. Mr. Schofield, who with his wife expects to make his permanent home here in the immediate future, was for some time connected with the Troy company in Portland.

R. W. Knoefel will continue as half owner and manager of the plant. A new delivery car is to be added to take care of the added business, but no extensions of the plant itself are planned as it was recently improved, being equipped with the latest modern devices.

TWO FINED BY JUSTICE IN MILWAUKIE COURT

Richard Smith, arrested a week ago at the Milwaukie arena on charges of possession of liquor, was found guilty in Judge Perry's court at Milwaukie Friday and fined \$100. P. Benicase, 6711, 46th street, Portland, was arrested for dumping garbage on 72nd street. He was fined \$25 and costs.

2 LOCAL MEN ELECTED BY RETAIL MERCHANTS

Everman Robbins, of Molalla has been elected first vice president of the Oregon Retail merchant's association, according to word received here following the annual meeting held in Roseburg, P. A. Rosecrans of Canby, was elected to the board of directors.

O. R. DAUGHERTY RE-ELECTED HEAD OF FARM BUREAU

Annual Meeting of Clackamas County Organization Held; H. H. Chindgren Is Chosen Vice-President for 1922.

COUNTY AGENT WORK, CLUB LEADER LAUDED

Compulsory Testing of All Cattle for Tuberculosis Endorsed by Resolution.

O. R. Daugherty, of Molalla, was Thursday re-elected president of the Clackamas County Farm Bureau. Mr. Daugherty served as president during 1921.

At the annual meeting, H. H. Chindgren, of Meadowbrook was elected vice president. Mrs. John Gaffney, of Clarendon, was re-elected secretary of the organization.

The executive committee is to be composed of the officers and the following members who were also elected Thursday: N. H. Smith, Logan; Ed. Hart, Sandy; Mrs. A. I. Hughes, Redland; Homer Kruse, Wilsonville; D. O. Day, Oswego; E. C. Brown, Canby; H. W. Kanne, Sunnyside.

The election of project leaders to have charge of the different improvement activities of the organization for the coming year was left to the executive committee. Election of heads of these departments was to have been acted upon, but was left over on account of lack of time.

The work of the county agent, Walter A. Holt, was commended in high terms by a resolution unanimously adopted. Greater cooperation with the activities of the county agent's office on the part of members of the bureau was recommended. The meeting also, by resolution, went on records as favoring the continuation of the county club the work of which is being directed by Mrs. L. Purcell. The appropriation for this activity was curtailed the first of the year by the county court, but the work is being kept up through individual contributions and some federal money which is available.

The farm bureau also endorsed the movement for compulsory testing of cattle for tuberculosis as a means of protecting public health and for the betterment of the stock.

A new plan of organization is to be followed as the result of action taken at the meeting. The county has been divided into nine districts, each one of which will be represented by one member upon the executive committee. The representative will have charge of all farm bureau activities in his district. It is hoped, according to the members of the committee that this will provide a more efficient means of conducting the work of the date of the annual meeting was also changed from the last; Thursday in February to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January.

LOCAL MAT MEN BEAT CHEMAWA WRESTLERS

SALEM, Feb. 23.—Lacking in science, Indian wrestlers of Chemawa lost the smoker bout staged in the Braves gym last night to their opponents from Oregon City and Salem.

The headline match between White of Salem and Howett of Chemawa fell to White who took two straight falls, the first with a scissors hold and the second with a headlock. Howett could have made a better showing if he had had a little more science.

The bout between Newton of Oregon City and Pettelin of the Indians fell to the latter who succeeded in getting one fall through his superior aggressiveness.

The first fall in the Evans-Russell bout was called a draw, but the second was given to Russell, representing Oregon City because of his aggressiveness. The winner, however, was unable to finish because of strain in his elbow.

The decision was given to Kream of Chemawa in the only boxing bout of the evening in which the bronzed battler met Dorman of Salem. If Kream would polish up a bit and get over the amateurishness of his fighting methods, he would no doubt get on in the fight game.

Two falls were obtained by Ginther from Charles Evans of Chemawa and with one bout forfeited by the Indians because of no entries, Jackson defeating Loudegren of Oregon City, the visitors went home with event won 2 to 1 in their favor.

MANY FIRES REPORTED

PORTLAND, Feb. 24.—Two homes were destroyed and two others damaged by a spectacular early morning fire at East Thirty-seventh and Main streets today. During the past 24 hours the fire department has been continually on the jump and thousands of dollars of property damage has been done by fires.