

OREGON CITY ENTERPRISE

FIFTY-SIXTH YEAR No. 33.

OREGON CITY, OREGON, FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 1922

ESTABLISHED 1866

POLICE RECORDS FLOODED; CASES OF CRIME MANY

Trial Of Charlie Straight Is Expected to Draw Large Crowd; County Courtroom May Be Scene Of Hearing.

NEW CONFESSION IN DRAPER CASE MADE

Young Mill Worker Admits Stealing of Clothes and Check Book From Auto.

The official registers, bearing the court stories of crimes of all sorts, have been kept damp with ink during the past week. What promises one of the most interesting liquor cases in months will be seen here when the prohibition agents appear in court to tell the story of the arrest of Charlie Straight. More than the mere prosecution of the one man may result from the case, it is indicated.

Sheriff Wilson is firm in the belief that the prosecution of Straight may lead to other arrests, as it is believed that the man is merely acting as a vendor of whiskey and that he is not making it, but securing it from somewhere in the vicinity of his home.

Trial Is Scheduled

Charlie Straight, Clackamas Heights rancher who was caught by state and county officers Monday night when he attempted to sell the prohibition agents some whiskey, will be tried before Judge E. J. Noble on August 23. Mrs. Charles Straight and Mrs. C. L. Smith were formally placed under arrest yesterday in connection with the same affair. They will be tried on the following day.

Interest in the case has become so marked that it is probable that the trial will be held in the county courtroom to accommodate the crowd.

The three were arraigned before Judge Noble Monday and pleaded not guilty. Bonds for each were set up at \$500, and up to a late hour last night none had been furnished.

Sheriff's deputies who Monday searched Straight's ranch found a three quarter gallon jug of whiskey.

Second Offense Listed

Straight had been arrested by federal men before and convicted. Saturday night when the state men called at his ranch, stopped their car near the trail below his house, and honked the horn lightly. Straight answered with a sharp whistle and came up the line with four pints of moonshine. The sale was consummated. The officers revealed their identity. One of the sheriff's deputies coming up from behind flashed his gun and relieved Straight of a heavy iron bar he was carrying. The officers proceeded to the house and purchased a pint from Mrs. Straight. On hearing that they were cops, Mrs. Smith, in another room, broke two bottles of moonshine, parts of which were secured for evidence.

New Confession Made

Lawrence Draper, 23-year-old Willamette mill worker who confessed to three robberies here and in Portland, yesterday confessed to a fourth theft, with which he was accused, according to Chief of Police W. B. May. Draper was charged with the theft of some wearing apparel and a check book belonging to J. L. Wallin, of the Portland Journal. The things were taken from Wallin's car, which was parked at Gladstone park a week ago Sunday. Wallin, in Oregon City, yesterday recognized Draper, and identified the check book found in Draper's coat. Draper, according to the chief, then admitted the robbery.

R. T. Richard, in jail here for the past two weeks charged with the theft of a California automobile, was taken to the south to stand trial yesterday by Sheriff J. W. Monroe, of Woodland, Yolo county, California. Richard was picked up here on the technical charge of driving a car without a license when it was discovered that the machine had been stolen and he was held pending the arrival of the Yolo county officials to return him for trial there.

Clackamas County Moonshine Figures In Federal Action

Information was received Wednesday afternoon by United States Attorney Lester W. Humphreys that the government had won the appeal taken by Bob Lowe, alleged bootlegger, to the circuit court of appeals. Lowe was convicted during February, 1921, by a federal court jury here, and on March 3 was fined \$1000.

The testimony was that Lowe purchased all the liquor made by C. A. Worthington in a still operated near Hog Hollow in Clackamas county. The government even succeeded in producing a check for \$187.50, with which Lowe is said to have paid Worthington for one delivery.

Lowe is well known in Portland as the former proprietor of Bab's restaurant.

COUNTY BOND PREMIUM HELD RECORD FOR STATE

Price of 101.81 Demanded By Condition of Finances Here Says Treasurer Everhart.

Clackamas county bonds sold last Monday at 101.81, brought one of the highest premiums on county securities since the war, perusal of the bond market figures reveals. The high point reached by the bonds is attributed by County Treasurer W. W. Everhart to the condition of the county finances in addition to the general rise in the bond market in the east.

The sale Monday, Mr. Everhart points out, involved the second block of the only county bonds which have ever been issued by Clackamas county. The block of \$152,950 was in addition to a former sale of \$236,500, all a part of the \$1,700,000 issue voted in 1919. This, according to the treasurer, means that the floating bonded indebtedness of the county is exceptionally small. The bonds in addition, he points out, are for show terms, running from five to 13 years. They draw five per cent and are tax exempt.

The desirability of the bonds, in addition to the other factors, Everhart says, is largely based on the financial condition of the county. Although the individual cities and school districts are heavily bonded, the county proper, which has the fifth highest assessed valuation in the state, is in excellent condition, he says. The only floating debt other than the bonded indebtedness is about \$200,000 in outstanding warrants, one third of which will be taken up with payment of taxes in October. The standing bonded indebtedness includes the payments made on the Oregon City-West Linn bridge. The securities, the treasurer says, are being offered as among the best municipal bond investments in the state.

SCHOOL DIRECTORSHIP CANDIDATES ARE LISTED

Election to Decide on Union District For Canby Slated To Be Held On August 21.

Eight residents from the territory included in the proposed Union High School district at Canby, are running for the positions of directors of the projected district, according to the official ballot completed Saturday by County School Superintendent Brenton Vedder. The election is to be held August 21 and includes districts 18, 23, 25, 28, 35, 37, 38, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

The candidates from whom the five directors will be chosen are J. Coleman Marks, Marks Prairie; P. A. Webber, Union Hill, W. H. Livingston Oak Lawn; D. W. Shrock, Ninety-One; E. C. Cherrick, Barlow; F. J. Kraxberger, Maeburg; C. O. Cole, Lone Elder and George G. Randall, Central Point.

The election for the decision on the Union High school question is the result of a campaign which has been waged in the vicinity of Canby for more than a year. The plan is to include the eleven districts which were already sending their students to the high school at Canby, for the combined purpose of doing away with the tuition fees, and placing the expenditure in a more equalized form of taxation, and giving the residents of the outlying districts a voice in the management of the schools which their children are attending.

NEW CLASSIFICATION OF VEHICLES IS PROPOSED

SALEM, Or., Aug. 11—Oregon's motor vehicle plates will be under four classifications next year, according to announcement made here tonight by Sam A. Kozar, secretary of state. Three of these license plate classifications are now in effect, including those designed for motorcycle, dealers and other vehicles.

The new plate will be designed for trucks, and besides having the numbers will have a letter T or some other outstanding designation. The new truck numbers will run from 85,000 to 100,000. Numbers for passenger cars and light delivery vehicles not designated as trucks under the traffic law, will run from one to 85,000 and from 100,000 to 135,000. The plates have been ordered and will arrive here in time for distribution before January.

The new plates for trucks was suggested by T. A. Rafferty, chief of the motor vehicle traffic department, as a means of assisting his officers in enforcing the laws. It was suggested that special plates also should be obtained for motor-buses, but this idea was abandoned following a conference attended by the secretary of state, Mr. Rafferty and representatives of the license plate manufacturers here today.

The plates for next year will have a Western Union blue background and white letters.

WILLAMETTE MAN CONFESSES TO 2 ROBBERIES HERE

Lawrence Draper Arrested By Chief of Police May On Theft Charge; Long and Miller Cases Are Solved.

19-YEAR-OLD WIFE GIVES UP PLUNDER

Home Is Searched; All of Stolen Property Will Be Returned, States Culprit.

Lawrence Draper, of Willamette, an employe of the Hawley Paper mill, is in the Oregon City jail charged with two local robberies. Draper, following his arrest Thursday night by Chief of Police W. B. May, signed a confession to the looting of the homes of W. A. Long, manager of the Liberty theatre, and Terry C. Miller, organist at the theatre.

Draper, who is 23 years of age, confessed to the robbery of Long's home July 22 and to Miller's home August 5. In both cases articles of women's wearing apparel were taken, together with jewelry and silverware. The majority of the articles which were stolen were found at the Draper home and the man, according to the chief, has promised to disclose the whereabouts of the remainder of the articles tomorrow.

Robberies Were Investigated

The two robberies have been under investigation by Chief May and the arrest of Draper followed several attempts to follow out other clues, which proved nothing toward the solution of the robberies. Draper, however, declared stoutly last night that he was not to blame for a previous attempt which had been made to rob the Miller home.

The articles which were stolen were found by the chief and Officer Hemmingway, who, armed with a search warrant, called yesterday at the Draper home. The search was made on Tuesday night after the chief discovered information implicating Draper. The man's 19-year-old wife was home at the time and admitted that the articles had been taken. She made no objection to turning them over to the officers and stated later that she knew of the thefts.

Confession Is Signed

The confession was signed by Draper Thursday in the presence of the chief, Officer Hemmingway, Chief of Police E. A. Hammerle of Willamette and W. A. Long. Draper, according to Chief May, blamed a streak of kleptomaniacs for the crimes. The man, the officer stated, had previously served a term in the Oregon reform school.

Fourth Robbery Now Charged to Willamette Man

A fourth theft which may be attributed to Lawrence Draper, 23-year-old mill worker in jail here, was disclosed to the authorities Saturday. Draper is charged with the looting of the W. A. Long and Terry Miller homes in Oregon City and with the robbery of the Wm. S. Holden residence in Portland.

Saturday J. L. Wallin, an employe of a Portland newspaper, called up Chief of Police May and asked if Draper was in possession of a U. S. National Bank check book. The chief investigated, and on going through the pockets of a coat brought to the station by Draper's wife, discovered a check book on the Portland bank.

The check stubs tallied exactly with a list repeated from memory by Wallin. The check book, Wallin told the chief, was among the things stolen from his car in Gladstone last Sunday night. Wallin had been there visiting and had parked his car on a dark street. A fur coat, two sweaters, one of the garments containing the check book, and other effects were stolen.

Chief May is practically convinced that Draper was responsible for the theft. The theory first held by May and Chief Hammerle of Willamette, attacks of kleptomaniacs, is being discarded under the belief that someone else beside Draper is connected with the affair. Chief May is of the opinion that further investigation will develop the fact that the pilfering done both here and in Portland was part of a fairly well organized burglary scheme.

Man Married in '93 Asks Divorce Upon Desertion Grounds

After being married since November 1, 1893, G. C. Givens yesterday began suit for divorce against Minnie C. Givens. Givens resides here and his wife, whom he alleges deserted him in 1919, resides in Salem. The couple were married in Cassville, Missouri.

REVOKE CITIZENSHIP OF MOONSHINERS, IS PLEA

Action of Immigration Law Would Aid in Curbing Of Violations, Holds Judge.

Adam Hodel, arrested a week ago on charges of manufacturing liquor, was Friday sentenced to six months in jail by Judge E. J. Noble. The sentence was given on a plea of guilty, but the execution of the commitment continued.

In sentencing Hodel, Judge Noble cited the case as an example of many where the immigration authorities could aid in the stopping of the moonshine traffic. Hodel, the judge pointed out, was a German, and had received naturalization papers March 27 of this year. At that time, according to the man's own confession to the judge, he was engaged in making booze, though he swore upon obtaining his citizenship papers that he was upholding, and would uphold the laws of the land.

"This," said the judge, "is nothing more or less than perjury, and cases of this kind, if followed out by the immigration officials, should result in the revocation of citizenship papers. I believe that this kind of legal action would have a big effect in enforcing the prohibition laws."

Judge Noble drew the distinction however, that the revoking of citizenship papers should not be necessarily made on the ground of violation of liquor laws alone, but should follow cases where the offense, or other offenses, involved directly the citizenship of the criminal.

In continuing Hodel's sentence, Noble pointed out that both he and his family would become charges on the hands of the county and that a suspended sentence with potential for immediate enforcement would be the more effective way of preventing future violations.

HECKER TO BE JAILED IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY

Russell Hecker, convicted murderer of Frank Bowker, Portland musician, will be returned to the Multnomah county jail in the immediate future pending the outcome of the appeal of his case to the supreme court. The filing of the certificate of probable cause, issued by Trial Judge Campbell last week, in addition to staying the execution of the death sentence, will make it possible for Hecker to be returned to the place of his original custody, according to Gilbert Hedges, one of the attorneys for Hecker.

Hecker, under section 1620 of the Oregon statutes, will be returned to Clackamas county, where he was tried, according to Hedges. The local authorities, however, due to the condition of the county jail, keep prisoners of any importance in the Multnomah county jail, where Hecker was confined at their request pending the trial here July 1.

The principal reason for the removal of Hecker to Portland from murderer's row in the state penitentiary is the fact that his parents are in Portland.

Contract Let By State Body For Loop Road Work

Contract for surfacing the Mount Hood loop in Clackamas county has been awarded by the state highway commission. This announcement was made Thursday by John B. Yeon, on his return from a trip of inspection of the loop work in Hood River county.

The surfacing job, 10 miles or more, has been awarded to A. D. Kern. Following the meeting of the Multnomah county commission last week, when a resolution was adopted pledging to the budget for the loop road, to be paid for out of receipts from the motor vehicle license fund, Highway Commissioner Yeon took the matter up with his colleagues, Commissioners Booth and Barratt.

Award of the contract was made as soon as the commissioners could be located and consulted and the situation in Multnomah county explained. Most of the grade between the Multnomah county line and Zigzag has been constructed. There are a few gaps now being graded and a fill being made. Much of the grade was completed last year and has been subjected to travel. The traffic is so heavy that the grade is being cut up and would be destroyed unless protected by a macadam surface. Without rocks, the road will be impassable next winter.

The contractor has been directed to install his plant and equipment and "hit the ball" as soon as convenient so that as much rock as possible can be spread before the rains set in and stop the work.

DOCTOR MISSING FROM HOME HERE, SOUGHT BY WIFE

R. S. Smith, Chiropractor, Is Gone, Says Spouse; Hunt Is Made at Salem; Police Of 2 Cities Aid Search.

DOMESTIC QUARREL THOUGHT TO BLAME

No Trace of Man Is Found Since Thursday; Residence In Oregon City Was Short.

The Oregon City police have been asked to aid in the search for Dr. R. S. Smith, missing from here since Thursday night.

Mrs. Smith, wife of the doctor, has instituted the aid of both the local and the Salem authorities. After his disappearance, the man was thought to have gone to the capital city.

Dr. Smith and his family moved here about six months ago. The doctor had offices in the Beaver building. The family reside at 604 Water street. Smith is a chiropractor and was just getting his practice established.

The disappearance is believed to be the result of a family altercation, following which the man left the house and according to his wife, has not been seen since. Saturday Mrs. Smith went to Salem in an effort to locate him there but has been unsuccessful.

It was thought by the officers in Salem who investigated the case that Smith had been there but had left the city before his wife arrived. No information, however, could be gathered concerning his probable destination.

Charlie Straight Sells Booze To Federal Officers

Charlie Straight is in jail today because he sold some moonshine to the wrong men. Three gentlemen from Pocatello purchased four pints of booze from Straight Saturday night. But they weren't from Pocatello; they were from the federal prohibition office in Portland.

The arrest was made late Saturday evening when the three federal men and Sheriff Wilson and his deputies "called" at Straight's farm on Clackamas heights. The prohibition officers met Straight out in the field some distance from his home. They purchased the booze. Straight recognized his mistake when the men displayed their stars.

The federal officers then went to the house, where they purchased, with marked money, a pint of liquor from Mrs. Straight. As soon as the deal was closed they revealed their identity. Mrs. C. L. Smith, who was in the next room, seized two pint flasks of liquor and broke them. The officers intervened in time to take the tops of the two bottles as evidence.

Straight was brought to Oregon City and placed in the county jail. He will be prosecuted here and not taken to Portland to the federal courts, according to the decision of Sheriff Wilson last night.

Straight was arrested three weeks ago by the federal officers in a raid at his home. He was convicted before Judge Wolverton and fined \$250. He paid \$125 fine and on the plea of his wife was given until the middle of this month to pay the remainder.

The two women at the Straight home were not arrested by the officers last night. At the house the officers confiscated an iron bar in Straight's possession, recalling threats he is said to have made against the prohibition agents.

HECKER IS SENT BACK TO CLACKAMAS COUNTY

Russell Hecker, 23, convicted of the murder of Frank Bowker, Portland musician, April 17, was transferred from the state penitentiary to Clackamas county custody Tuesday morning to await the outcome of his appeal to the supreme court.

Hecker, who was sentenced to hang September 22, was granted a stay of execution when his case was appealed to the higher court. Roy Kendall, principal keeper, brought Hecker to Oregon City. Due to the condition of the Clackamas county jail at Oregon City, he will be confined in the Multnomah county jail at Portland.

Hecker must now be resented by trial Judge Campbell in case the verdict is sustained by the supreme court.

THIEF IS GIVEN THREE YEARS IN PENITENTIARY

Geo. Martin, Robber of Ed Price Stores, Found Guilty on Camas Charges.

George Martin, 23, alias George Strickling, who was arrested in Camas, Washington, and confessed to two robberies and an attempted theft in Oregon City, has confessed to more than 40 robberies and criminal records in five states, according to word from the police department at Vancouver yesterday.

On trial in the superior court at Vancouver, Martin was sentenced to from three to fifteen years in the state penitentiary at Walla Walla. Martin pleaded guilty to the burglary of three Camas stores in which he obtained about \$800 worth of merchandise several weeks ago.

Martin said he had served time in the St. Cloud reformatory in Missouri, in San Quentin prison, California, in Montana penal institutions, in the Multnomah county jail, Oregon, and had recently been paroled from Walla Walla, where he had been sent from Tacoma on a one to five years' sentence for burglary.

Martin always stole more when he got out of prison to make up for lost time, he told the court. He agreed to plead guilty to burglary when he was assured no habitual criminal charge would be brought against him. He acted as his own attorney.

Martin was originally arrested for three robberies in Camas, but a quantity of goods stolen from the Ed Price department store here was found in his possession. He confessed to that theft, and also to the robbery of Price Brothers' department store as well as to the attempted breaking of the Wheeler pool hall safe. He was tried only on the Washington charges. The local cases are still standing against him.

MAN FRACTURES SKULL IN FALL FROM HAY RIG

Theodore Emil Kraeft Killed In Accident; Fractious Horse Is Held To Blame.

Theodore Emil Kraeft, aged 68 years, died in the Oregon City hospital Thursday about 8 o'clock, from injuries received at his home on the Redland road when he fell from a load of straw while at his barn. The horses Kraeft was driving becoming fractious while entering the barn door caused Kraeft to lose his balance from the load of straw and falling to the ground struck on his head. He suffered from a fractured skull and lived but a short time after arriving at the hospital.

Kraeft was one of the prominent farmers of that section of the county, where he had made his home for the past 20 years. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mary Kraeft; his children, Herbert E. and Alice K., of Oregon City, and at the family home; Arthur Kraeft, of Portland; Mrs. R. L. Viergetz, of Los Angeles, Cal.; Mrs. O. F. Wheery, of Portland; Alon A. Kraeft, of Edmonton, Canada.

TEACHERS' INSTITUTE DATES ARE ARRANGED

The teachers' institute for the coming school year will be held October 11, 12 and 13, according to the dates just set by County School Superintendent Brenton Vedder. The arrangement of the program is under way. Among the speakers who have accepted to address the institute are State Superintendent J. A. Churchill.

Schools in Clackamas county will open beginning September 4. Different schools over the county have different opening dates. The first date of school for Oregon City students will be September 18.

New State Bank In Oswego Files Incorporation

Articles of incorporation of the Oswego State Bank were filed here Thursday morning. The new bank is to have an initial capital stock of \$15,000. The incorporators are Charles J. Sadlock, Portland, Emil Folda, Clarkston, Calif. county, Nebraska; John Bickner, W. B. Cook, Matt Didzun, Frank Whittin, L. C. Newlands and F. Van Pymbroek, of Oswego. The stock is divided into blocks of \$100 shares. Sadlock holds 100 of the 150 shares of stock and Folda 26.

There is at present no bank in Oswego. The city is located on the new Pacific highway route, west of Oregon City. It has an assessed valuation of nearly \$500,000 and is the center of a district of approximately \$1,000,000 valuation, including the town itself. The city has a population of 1860.

END OF BATTLE ON TAX LAW NOW SAID CERTAIN

Portland Wholesale Concerns Pay Fees; Hedging About License Provisions Will Be Discontinued, Is Hope.

USE OF LOCAL TRUCKS IS UNSATISFACTORY

No Action Upon Interurban Franchise Ordinance Is Taken By Council Body.

The controversy over the so-called vehicle ordinance appeared yesterday to have been finally ended with the payment by a number of Portland concerns of the quarterly \$30 license fee.

The ordinance providing for this license is a reenactment of a law held unconstitutional by Judge Campbell. No appeal of the case was taken but a new ordinance, overcoming the difficulties, was passed. In order to get around the statute, the Portland wholesalers for the past four months have been attempting to make their deliveries here in round about methods.

The law provides a license fee for all dealers delivering articles here for resale. In order to avert the payment, arrangements were made to deliver goods from Portland to Parkplace and have it taken here by local transfer firms. Other arrangements were made to have the Oregon City merchants' delivery wagons call for goods at Parkplace or transfer it outside the city limits. Still other merchandise has been shipped by freight.

This arrangement in order to avert the payment of the license fee, has been found impractical. The payment of the licenses of Kerr Gifford and Company and Albers Brothers Milling Company, who were among those holding out, is regarded as an indication that the war upon the provisions of the local charter is to be discontinued.

New Clause Inserted

The first ordinance was passed about a year ago, but was held to be unconstitutional because it was for revenue purposes only. The matter was never appealed from the decision of Judge Campbell. A second ordinance providing the same license fees was then enacted, but included a number of regulatory provisions and it is understood that no court action is to be begun against it because it will hold water.

Negotiations on a second vehicle ordinance, passed to regulate interurban buses, are at a standstill. The ordinance to tax the interurban lines was passed, and a fight was instituted in the courts by the Portland-Salem stage line. An agreement has been reached to withdraw the suit if the city will arrange a license fee on which the operators can agree. The matter has been placed in the hands of a councilman committee, but no action has been taken for the past few months.

PER CAPITA TAXES FOR COUNTY TOWNS LISTED

West Linn Shows Drop; Levy For Oregon City in Past Seven Years Shows Gain.

West Linn, which last year was numbered among the highest per capita taxed cities in the state, has fallen considerably in the 1922 roll, according to tabulations of the condition over Oregon. This year Warrenton leads with the large figure of \$84 per capita. West Linn, still among the highest in the county, is listed at \$44.56.

The per capita tax in Oregon City is \$10.70. Others either in this county or in the vicinity of Oregon City are listed as follows: Aurora, \$5.56; Barlow, \$3.62; Estacada, \$3.52; Gervais, \$5.86; Hubbard, \$6.50; Milwaukie, \$5.52; Oswego, \$2.52; Sandy, \$2.54; Scott Mills, \$2.06; Tualatin, \$3.71; Woodburn, \$8.80.

Oregon City tax rates show a decided increase since 1915. Figures given for 1915, 1921 and 1922 are: Oregon City, 10, 15, 19; Aurora, 5, 5.7, 5.3; Barlow, 5, 5, 5; Canby, 7.5, 14.2, 13.5; Estacada, 5, 10, 10; Hubbard, 4, 10.4, 9.8; Gladstone, 5, 6.2, 2.8; Milwaukie, 8, 10.9, 11.5; Molalla, 5, 10, 10; Oswego, 10, 10, 10; Sandy, 5, 10, 10; West Linn, 10, 27, 34.

Boring Couple Get Marriage License

The first marriage license to be issued here in the past week was granted by County Clerk Miller yesterday to Jerome Brook, 25, Boring, Route 1, and Louise Hemrich, 18, Boring, Route 3.