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LOCAL LORE.

Advertisements in this column charged for at the rate of 15 cents per line.

—The Corvallis public school opens Monday.

—Mrs. Hugh Smith returned to The Dalles Wednesday after a visit with Corvallis relatives and friends.

—George Paul entered the Caldwell School of oratory and acting in San Francisco last Monday.

—B. W. Johnson leaves today for Portland, to attend a meeting of the finance committee of the grand lodge of Knights of Phythias.

—Miss Jennie Noble has accepted a position as bookkeeper in a Portland establishment, and has resigned her place as teacher in the Corvallis public schools. Miss Edna Finley has been elected to the vacancy.

—Miss Nora Ingle, daughter of J. W. Ingle, returned Wednesday from Chicago, where she finished a post-graduate course as a trained nurse. She will remain here some time.

—Henry Ambler, the wide-awake real estate man has returned from a two weeks' sojourn at the Coast. He has a number of deals on hand, concerning which announcements will likely to be made soon.

—Invitations are out for a Measuring party to be given by the Senior Epworth Leaguers at the Methodist church next Wednesday evening. Two cents is charged for each foot in the stature of each guest, which accounts for the name of the function.

—The transfer of the Welker residence property was made Wednesday. The purchaser is Mrs. Mahala Stewart. The price paid is $1,500 cash. The sale was made by O. J. Blackledge. The property is occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Small.

—Regular services will be held at the M. E. church South, tomorrow, morning and evening, by the pastor. This will be the last service before conference which convenes at Roseburg Sept. 17. A full attendance of members is requested. The public is cordially invited.

—The Y. M. C. A. at the College will make their canvass of the city Tuesday, Sept. 15th to secure a list of all boarding and rooming houses. All who expect to keep students will materially assist the Association by having ready their data as to the number of rooms, price, etc.

—There was a holiday for pickers in the Beach hop yard yesterday. The hops picked the day before was enough to supply the driers for two days, and a full day's lay off for pickers resulted. Mold and lice to a great or less degree have appeared in the yard as a result of the late rains. The crop is enormous and the quality very fine. About half the yard, possibly more, has been picked.

—Work on the toilets in the basement of the public school building is nearly completed. Delay is occasioned by the non-arrival from the East of some of the required materials. The improvement includes complete connection of the building with the sewer system, and an arrangement of details for perfect sanitation. The cost is about $1,000. J. R. Smith & Company have the contract.

—In Eugene an Elmira man is being sued in the circuit court by Eugene dealers for $210 damages on account of the failure of the former to deliver chittim bark bought of him at five cents per pound, but which he refuses to deliver. The $210 is the amount that the Eugene dealers allege in court they would have made on the bark had it been delivered.

—Rev. Reeves and others from Corvallis are to attend the annual conference of the M. E. church, South at Roseburg on the 17th; Rev. Reeves expects to be able to report the charge in this city as entirely out of debt, the congregation having raised about $900 this year in order to get into sound financial condition. The report Rev. Reeves will take to the conference will be the best made from Corvallis in many years. Bishop Morrison is to preside at the conference and is expected to visit Corvallis during his stay in the state.

—Frank Hershner and family left Thursday for Gresham, where they will reside during the school year. Mr Hershner is principal of the school there, which is of important character. A new high school with a four year course has been newly established, and he is at the head of it as well as the lower grades. All the family go to Gresham except Miss Blanche Hershner, who remains in Corvallis. The family home on College Hill has been leased to Dr. Bowen Lester, who has embarked in the chicken business as a diversion, and will occupy the premises with his feathered favorites.

—Of last year's football team, the State University will have the following this season: McKinney, Kerron, Earl, Frizzell, Thayer, Chandler, Latourette, Payne, Templeton and Goodrich. The men they lose are Murphy Watts and Jordan. The following schedule of games has been provisionally made: October 10, alumni team, Eugene; October 17, Chemawa, Eugene; October 24, Albany, Eugene; November 7, Washington Agricultural College, Eugene; November 14, University of Washington, Seattle; November 21, OAC, Eugene; Thanksgiving day, Multnomah Club, Portland.

—William Groves is re-shingling the south half of the opera house roof.

—Fred Overlander was able to be down town this week. He is just recovering from a protracted illness.

—The Misses Tucker entertained a few friends at their home Monday evening in honor of their aunt, Mrs. Motley, who is visiting in Corvallis.

—United Evangelical church services next Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7:45 p. m. Preaching at Dixon school house at 3 p. m.

—Louis Burnough, the well-known center of the O. A. C. football team has a position in a drugstore at Enterprise, and is not to return to college this year.

—Prune picking has already begun in a few orchards. The big drier was warmed up yesterday to begin work on small lots of prunes from neighboring orchards. Picking in the big orchard begins Monday morning.

—Mrs. Sherman Wade and child returned to their Eastern Oregon home Thursday. They were accompanied as far as Portland by Mrs. Wade's mother, Mrs. John Rickard.

—Two sisters and a brother named Adams have arrived from Portland to attend college. They have purchased the W. E. Yates property at the corner of Ninth & Monroe, which they are to occupy. The price paid for the property is $675.

—The Lebanon company of O. N. G. cavalry spent two nights in Corvallis in their annual practice march. They had been on a tour of the upper valley and were nearing the end of their march when here.

—William Crees, who recently went to Portland for medical treatment, is very much encouraged by his physician, although he will be required to remain in Portland some time. Both Mr. and Mrs. Crees are at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Groosbeck.

—Invitations are out for the wedding of Miss Mabel Johnson and Albert Burrows, to take place in Portland Wednesday, September 23rd, at eight o'clock. Miss Johnson formerly resided in Corvallis, where she was a popular vocalist and had many friends. She is a sister of Postmaster Johnson.

—Mr. and Mrs. L. N. Riley and son returned to their home in Portland Thursday after a ten-days stay in Corvallis with Mr. and Mrs. Andrews. Mrs. Riley is the lady who was injured a year ago by the collapse of a bridge in Linn county, and she has not yet recovered the use of her arm. It is believed that the arm is permanently disabled from paralysis.

—Commissioner William Jolly reports that in his orchard near Philomath, San Jose scale is prevalent. The ravages of the pest, Mr. Jolly says, is very damaging to the trees. The upper portion dies, and sprouts in abundance spring up from the roots. Unless remedies are resorted to, Mr. Jolly is certain, from his meagre experience, that the scale will finally be fatal to orchards in which it appears. The remedy of course is spraying. The penalty for selling or offering for sale, fruit that is infected with scale or other pest or disease, is a fine of not less than $25, nor more than $100.

—The last day for paying taxes on this year's roll is fast approaching. On the morning of October 6th, penalty and interest will be charged. That means that in order to avoid the penalty, all taxes must be paid by the evening of October 5th. A considerable number of people have paid half their taxes and are taking all the grace allowed under the law for liquidation of the balance. If their last half is not paid by the evening of October 5th, they will be compelled on the following morning to pay 10 per cent penalty on the last half, and 12 per cent interest on the same amount from April 7th to date of payment. There is a prospect that the delinquent roll will be somewhat larger than last year.

—Parties making the largest sales of years to J. L. Lewis were H. F. Bristow and D. C. Rose. The former brought from his orchard in the Bellfountain neighborhood 7119 pounds for which he received $53.40. Mr. Rose, whose orchard is near town, sold 4180 pounds which netted him $31.35. These pears go to canneries in San Francisco, and very likely Corvallis people will soon be buying them back in a preserved state with the profits of numerous concerns added to the original price. The time is coming when we shall not pay the railroad companies to haul our fruit to San Francisco, pay for having it canned there, and pay again for having it hauled back to us, but that time is long deferred. It seems that we are too "conservative" at present to can our own fruit.

—William Bogue and family who have been absent all summer on account of Floyd's health, arrived Tuesday. They spent several weeks at Cascadia, and after that went across the mountains and journeyed up the Deschutes river, to a point 30 miles above Bend. The spot is 30 miles southeast of the Three Sisters and sixty miles southwest of Prineville. There Mr. Bogue has leased a dwelling house, to which he and his family will return for the winter, remaining perhaps until next autumn. The place is in the heart of the water supply for the big irrigation ditches which it is proposed to build into the adjacent country. Mr. Bogue has interests to dispose of before leaving Corvallis again, but he expects to get away in about three weeks. His advertisement is to be seen elsewhere.

NEARLY DOUBLED.

Valuation on Taxable Property in Benton—What the Figures are.

The city of Corvallis will pay taxes this year on about a million dollars worth of taxable property. Last year its property valuation for assessment purposes was $488,350. The exact figures of the total on the new roll are not available, but it is known that when completed three or four weeks hence, they will show that the valuations of the city are nearly if not quite doubled. On a five mill levy for city purposes, if that levy is made by the city council, it will yield a revenue for general purposes of about $5,000. On the same levy last year the revenues so derived only aggregated a little over $2,500. For street purposes on a two mill levy, the sum available will about $1,000 as against only $500 the past year.

It is estimated that the new assessment roll, whose footings in most particulars were completed Wednesday, will show a total taxable property for the Corvallis school district of about $1,200,000. The figures last year were $607,180, or about one half of the present valuation.

The total valuation of all property in the county according to the new roll is $4,336,430 The figures on last year's roll were, $2,507,105. The valuations made by the assessor lack less than $700,000 of doubling those of last year. The higher valuations will make a lower tax levy possible, and insomuch will have a favorable effect, both at home and abroad, in many ways Some regret is expressed that the aggregate might not have doubled completely this year, as has been the case in Clackamas county, in which which, as will as in other counties a movement for higher valuations and lower levies is in progress. In Clackamas the valuations were increased from about four millions to more than eight millions. In Benton, the various classes of property and their aggregate value is as follows;

Tillable land, 63,986 acres, $1,574,590.
Non-tillable land, 292,705, $1,203,365
Improvements on deeded lands, $275,270,
Town lots, $335,450.
Improvements on town lots, $317,940.
Improvements on undeeded land, $2,675
Railroad bed, 48 miles, $161,865.
Rolling stock, $17,860.
Telegraph and telephone, 86 miles, $6,740.
Merchandise, $110,015.
Farming implements etc, $58,560
Steamboats etc. $11,740.
Money, $51,520
Notes and accounts, $111,225.
Shares of stock, $24,165.
Household furniture etc. $63,415
Horses and mules, 2,014, $88,470.
Cattle, 7,903, $118,760.
Sheep and goats, 33,958, $67,255.
Swine, 2,696, $9,705.
Gross value of all property, $4,550,485.
Exemptions, $220,055.
Total taxable property, $4,336,430.

The figures in the valuations are subject of course, to the action of the county board of equalization which meets to consider the roll on the 28th inst.

—Tuesday evening after the business meeting, the Degree of honor held a social session in honor of Miss Hattie Spencer, who had just returned from a prolonged stay in Eastern Oregon. An interesting programme was rendered. Instrumental solo, Mrs. Sheasgreen; recitation, Mrs. Spencer; solo, Taylor Porter; reading, Mrs. Sarah Moore; solo, Gladys Moore.

School Books.

At Graham & Wells, drug store—School supplies of all kinds. Second hand public school books taken in exchange;

Piano Pupils.

Miss Mamie Cauthorn wishes to announce that she will resume piano teaching October 1st, and that she will be found at her studio on Third street.

Best grade of gasoline 30 cents a galon at Berry's.

Dr. A. T, Roberts has Returned to Salem,

Dr. A. T. Roberts, the eye-specialist, who was here two years ago and through the perfection of his work gained a reputation second to none in Oregon, has returned to Salem, and has a fine suite of offices over Dalrymples store, where he will be pleased to meet all his old friends and patients, and others who need his services. Consultation free.

HAS NO CREDENTIALS.

And has no Official History—A School District in a Queer Fix.

School district number 14, known as the Woods Creek district, is in that peculiar condition in which it is without antecedents or official record of how it came to be organized. It is the district in which a school house was burned last year. It is a district that has levied taxes, owned property, and drawn school money. It has employed teachers, elected district officers, instructed the youth, and performed all functions usual to a duly organized school district. But it has been discovered that it has no place on the county map, and that there is no record of its organization in the archives of the superintendent's office. The condition was the occasion of an adjourned meeting of the county court Thursday. Directors of the district involved, and of all contiguous districts were in attendance, and all were in deliberation a large part of the day. Adjournment was, however taken without action to establish and reorganize the district with proper credentials.

It appears that in such cases, the method of getting the affairs of the district again into proper and legal status is to begin all over again, and create the district anew, as though that preliminary had never been done. Petitions properly made and signed by patrons of the original districts out of which the new district was created must be presented and acted upon by the court. It is the purpose to bring all this about at some future meeting of the county court. The district is supposed to have been organized a dozen or more years ago.

Auction Sale.

September 26th, I will sell at public auction to the highest bidder at my farm one and one half miles north of Hoskins the following: 40 head of cattle, 60 head of hogs, some sheep, one binder and other implements. Terms of sale, cash in hand.

George Neathamer,
Kings Valley.