

LOCAL LORE.

(Advertisements in this column charged for at the rate of 1 cent per line.)

—Joe Robinson, member of a Benton county pioneer family, is down from east of the mountains, on a two-weeks visit to old acquaintances.

—Gus Alson, who passed through Corvallis to Portland a few days ago from Toledo to answer a charge of selling liquor to Indians, was acquitted of the charge in the U. S. court.

—Dr. and Mrs. Darrin took their departure from Corvallis last Sunday. They go to San Francisco for a brief time, after which they will travel in the old world for a period of perhaps six months.

—W. A. Wells has partially recovered from his late illness, but he expects to be further benefitted by a sojourn in California. He will therefore depart for that state as soon as he can make the necessary arrangements for his absence.

—A football team picked from the younger devotees of the game about Corvallis went out to Philomath Saturday and engaged a similar team of that place in the afternoon. The result of the game was seven to naught in favor of Corvallis.

—Attention is called to the publication of the names and members of new patrons of the local telephone system, and also of changes in numbers of old patrons. Interested parties are expected to clip from the paper copies of the changes for reference.

—Mr. W. E. Hanley and Miss Mabel Boorman were married at Hood River on Thanksgiving day. The groom is an O. A. C. student, Mr. Hanley has a farm in Washington county, and the newly-wedded couple will put into practice the knowledge obtained at the agricultural college.

—The change of the Dusty mail route from Philomath to Corvallis went into effect yesterday. Bird Rickard, the carrier, arrived in town yesterday morning at 10:30, and left for Bellfountain in the afternoon at 2 o'clock. The service is daily. The route has been in operation out of Philomath for several years.

—Arrangements are being made for a great poultry show in Albany, to begin January 12th and continue four days. An early announcement is made so that prospective exhibitors may have time to put their fowls in good condition. Doubtless there will be a good representation from Benton county as many persons in this locality are taking much interest in high-grade poultry. Further particulars are to be given out soon.

—Byron Cardwell, an early resident of Benton county, died in Portland a few days ago. With his parents and other members of the family he went to Portland about the year 1860. In 1857 and 1858, Byron Cardwell and W. B. Carter kept a band of Mexican mustangs in the hills just west of Corvallis, and it was for the former that Cardwell Hill was so named. Deceased was a man of considerable prominence in politics and business, and at the time of his death was a Portland councilman.

—M. S. Rickard, recently of Snohomish, has rented the farm of Willis Vidito in Alsea valley, and will take charge soon after the first of the year. Mr. Rickard is to introduce into the valley a quantity of high grade stock of various kinds and on Saturday arrived in Corvallis with a fine hog which he proceeded to Alsea on Monday. The stock is the Ohio Improved Chester, and is known as the O. I. F. This animal will doubtless prove a good accession to the stock interests of the valley.

—At this time a favorite method of hunting ducks and geese is for a party of two or three to have a boat hauled up the river fifteen to twenty miles and drift down on it. By this means the sportsmen are able to conveniently hunt out the sloughs and bayous in addition to the sport, they may have on the main river. It is their custom to camp over night on a favorable bar, where geese congregate after feeding in the fields. A party consisting of J. N. McFadden, John Zels and M. P. Burnett made such a trip the first of the week and secured forty-eight ducks and a goose.

—Mrs. Roy Baber returned Sunday from Portland where she has been under the care of physicians for several weeks. She was accompanied by her husband who returned on Monday to the scene of his mining operations at Glenn's Ferry, Idaho. There Mr. Baber is superintending the construction of an immense gold mining dredge, in which he is himself one of the principal owners. Much of the heavy machinery going into the structure is of special character and it has required eastern manufacturers a long time to complete it. Mr. Baber hopes to have the dredge ready for work by February first.

—A group of men collected on the street yesterday and an investigation of the cause disclosed a hot discussion as to whether Charley Chipman was celebrating the 50th or 51st anniversary of his birth. Charley was 50 years old on November 30th. At length the argument of Bismarck prevailed. He knew that a similar question had been settled in Germany before he left that country years ago. His contention was that an anniversary meant the return of a certain date. A person's first birthday is not an anniversary because it is not a return of the date. So any one 50 years old has had 51 birthdays, but only 50 anniversaries.

—Mrs. M. P. Barnett spent Sunday with Albany friends.

—Mrs. E. P. Grefoz was the guest of Mrs. C. C. Hogue of Albany last week.

—Willey Young is home on a two-weeks vacation. He is located in Portland.

—Rev. P. A. Moses returned Monday from a visit with his daughter at Yaquina City.

—Prof. and Mrs. A. O. Schmitt spent Thanksgiving with Mrs. Schmitt's parents in Albany.

—A noticeable improvement is a ten-foot walk in front of R. H. Huston's property on Main and Jefferson streets.

—Karl Stelwer and Merrill Moores returned Monday from a Thanksgiving visit at the Stelwer home near Jefferson.

—P. M. Zierolf returned Sunday from Portland, where he had gone a few days previously to consult a physician on account of rheumatism.

—Judge Watters went to Salem Monday, having been summoned to a meeting of the executive board of the Good Boys Association, of which he is vice president.

—Albany Democrat—Harve Bodloe returned today from Corvallis, where he took great pleasure in seeing his alma mater do Nevada. Mr. Bodloe was probably the best guard OAO ever had.

—Mrs. F. E. Purdy invited a number of friends of the family to her home near the S. P. depot Monday evening in honor of her daughter, Miss Lella Jones, who is on a visit from Portland. The entertainment was music and games.

—Williams who went through Nevada's ends for three touchdowns, couldn't do a thing with Albany's fast ends, Albany Democrat. Williams did not round the Nevada ends for the touchdowns. His play was through the Nevada line between tackle and guard.

—Albany Democrat—At a meeting of the Alsea commercial committee the Cramer proposition was discussed and accepted subject to the securing of \$5,000 security for the company. When this is obtained the \$2,500 bonus will be solicited and undoubtedly obtained.

—The end of November closed the open season for China pheasants, native pheasants and all other land birds. Sportsmen state that there seems to be now an unusual number of China pheasants as compared with the number in previous years at the beginning of the closed season. This of course, may be taken to indicate that there will be an unusual number of birds next year.

—D. M. Smith was in much tribulation Monday morning. His trouble was occasioned by the absence of a fine bird dog which had strayed away or had been stolen. Mr. Smith consulted the best detective skill in the city and when an exhaustive plan of search had been completed the dog came home in a bedraggled condition. The owner thinks the animal had been foreibly detained somewhere, but took the first opportunity to make his escape.

—A very gratifying observation relative to fine poultry breeding in Benton—and perhaps the same may be said of the entire state—is the fact that breeders are not only securing the best obtainable stock, but they are also of late preparing to care for the birds in an altogether better way. S. H. Moore, for example, has constructed a chicken house about 120 feet in length and arranged for thorough ventilation, cleanliness and many other necessities and conveniences. Running out from the building long pens have been constructed of high wire fencing, by which means the different stocks of poultry are kept separate. Persons contemplating poultry business should examine Mr. Moore's plan. F. L. Miller has also prepared to give his chickens comfortable housing. He has constructed a chicken house 80 feet long, and on very much the same plan as that adopted by Mr. Moore. From Mr. Miller's improvements and preparations it would seem that his ambition is to make a regular poultry paradise. Dr. Lester is also carrying out some original ideas as to the care of chickens. Gene Simpson is another fancier. He has been in the business for some time and has acquired such a practical knowledge of poultry breeding that it is a source of much financial profit. Hundreds of others in the county are acquiring choice strains of poultry and studying the requirements of the business, and it seems probable that now Benton can boast of a greater variety of thoroughbred chickens than any other county in the state.

—New couches and bed lounges just received at the Blackledge Furniture and Music Store.

—New stock of Napa Tam and A A Cutter's shoes just in. All styles. No others so good. S. L. Kline.

—The great wearing shoes, Napa Tam, new supply now in. S. L. Kline sole agent.

—Overcoat sale at Kline's.

—The Corvallis Business College teaches bookkeeping by the Voucher plan, which is the only system that makes practical bookkeepers. Try it.

THE CONTRACT MADE.

End of the Negotiations for Street Lighting—Arc Lights Ordered.

An agreement has been reached with reference to street lighting in Corvallis. A contract, giving a franchise to the local Electric Light Company for a period of 10 years was signed Saturday afternoon. The company is under bond to the city for faithful performance of the terms of the contract.

Under the arrangement the city is to pay five dollars per month for arcs, and \$1.35 for incandescents. The figures are exactly the same as those submitted in the Jones bid, and are believed to be very low. The present rate the city pays for incandescents is about \$2.50 per month. The new rates are to go into effect December 1st, when the total cost per month to the city for street lighting will be \$54. For several years past the cost has been \$102.50 per month. Formerly, it was \$124.50 per month.

STREET LIGHTS CHEAP.

The last of the various steps incident to the negotiations, was taken at a special meeting of the city council Friday night. It consisted in the repeal of the ordinance that was passed over the mayor's veto, and in the adoption of a new ordinance in lieu thereof. The ordinance that was passed over the veto, it will be remembered, provided that the city should pay \$6 per month for arcs and \$1.41 for incandescents. It subsequently appeared however, that the councilmen, when they passed the ordinance over the veto had a private agreement by which the local company should accept the lower figures of the Jones bid, or \$5 per month for arcs and \$1.35 for incandescents. Then it developed that no contract could be legally signed on a basis of the lower figures, and a special meeting was called and the work of passing the ordinance over the veto was undone and a new ordinance incorporating the lower figures adopted. The result is that Corvallis probably has the cheapest street lighting of any town in the West.

CONTRACT HAS GOOD FEATURES.

There are other favorable features of the new contract. Under the former contract, when once a light was ordered, it had to continue in use by the city during the life of the contract. In the event that an extravagant council should have ordered an immense number of lights, the city would have been compelled to continue to use and pay for them. Under the new contract, the city may at the end of a year discontinue the use of any or all lights ordered, or such action may be taken at the end of any subsequent year thereafter. Originally, the local company asked that at least \$75 worth of lights should be constantly used, but this was eliminated from the contract entirely, and the city may use \$10 worth, or go without lights entirely, if it so desires. The only way in which the city is bound in this particular is that it shall use the lights of the local company, and pay \$5 per month for arcs and \$1.35 for incandescents for such number as it may use.

There is also a very distinct promise on the part of the local company that there is to be a liberal reduction to private consumers. Mr. Porter addressed the council while the new ordinance was pending, and said that the minimum for meters, now \$1.50 per month would be reduced to 75 cents or \$1 per month, and that the rate for meter use would likewise be much lowered. It is fully believed that the company will carry out its promises. Meantime, the council has it distinctly stated in the contract that the council does not waive its right, granted under the charter, to regulate the rates of light to private consumers.

REDUCTION TO PRIVATE CONSUMERS

Since the above was in type, the Light Company has announced a reduction to private consumers, which is sweeping enough to place electric lighting within reach of all. Notice of the reduction appears in another column. The minimum meter rate, now at \$1.50, is to be placed at 75 cents. The same rate at Albany is \$1. The rate per 1,000 Watt hours, now 20 cents is to be reduced to 10 cents, a cut of exactly one half. It 7,500 Watt hours of light is used by meter, the charge is 75 cents. In Albany or Portland, the same amount of light to private consumers costs \$1. If 15,000 Watt hours of light is used by meter the cost under the reduction is \$1.50. The same amount in Albany costs \$2.55, and in Portland \$2.70. In Corvallis, under the reduction 20,000 Watt hours of light is to cost \$2 in Albany, \$3, and in Portland, \$3.60. A change

in the arrangement is that hereafter families using the light must make their own renewals of lamps. In the past the company has made the renewals of all breakage. The cost of an ordinary lamp is 20 cents or eighteen cents if a number is taken. The breakage and wear of lamps is very small compared to the very great reduction made in its rates by the light company. The same arrangement will be allowed business places that use the light continually in case they desire to install meters, save that the minimum rate to private consumers will not apply. The new rates to private consumers are to go into effect January 1.

OTHER BIDDERS STILL UNKNOWN.

A brief communication from the Jones people was read while the ordinance was under consideration. The statement was signed by Thomas Jones, and declared that if given the opportunity, a lower bid would be offered. The council did not consider that the communication was tangible enough to merit consideration. No statement as to the identity of the bidders was made, and no evidence submitted in the new communication as to the financial standing of the proposed bidders. Both of these are essentially factors in any contract to be made by the city for so long a period as 10 years, and the absence of information on both points made it difficult for the members to assume the responsibility of delaying for further consideration.

The mistake of the competitors all along, has been in not disclosing their identity fully, and in giving the councilmen a full view of their purposes and plans as evidence of good faith. Of the financial stability of the Porter company, there was no doubt, and the council took no chances in dealing with them. With the other people all unknown, a factor of risk was manifest, especially in view of the fact that in the last offer there was neither certified check or offer of a substantial bond.

WHAT JONES BID SAVED CITY.

Of the Jones people, there is, however, one thing to be said. To the unexpected and opportune appearance of their first bid is due the fact that a comparatively short term contract has been made, and at prices much lower than would have been possible had they not appeared as competitors for the franchise. The local company refused a fifteen years contract at \$6.25 for arcs and \$1.46 for incandescents. After the Jones people appeared, the local company accepted a ten years contract at \$5 for arcs and \$1.35 for incandescents. The difference on a basis of fifteen arcs for street lighting for fifteen years, had the local company have finally accepted the latter term, would have been \$3,375 which amount is saved, to say nothing of annual interest and the natural increase in light consumption as the period advances—the saving of which large amount is due to the timely appearance of the Jones bid.

The council has ordered eight arc lights by way of experiment, with a probability that others will be added. Four will be placed on Main street, probably as follows: One at Hotel Corvallis corner, one at the Occidental corner one at the corner of Main and Jefferson, and one at the R. M. Wade corner. Of the other four it is the present plan to place one at the City Hall corner, one on the top of the court house, one near the end of south Fourth street, and one in the vicinity of the public school building. This plan may of course be somewhat changed. It is expected that the new lights will be in operation, possibly by the holidays.

Basket Social.

At I O O F Hall, Philomath, by Philomath Concert band. Everybody come Ladies bringing baskets admitted free. Gentlemen purchasing baskets will be refunded their 10c. Come out and encourage the band. Admission 10c.

Eclectic short hand is very easy to learn, and it is the most rapid system. Short hand notes are read as easily as print.

There is a sale of mens and boys overcoats now going on at Kline's.

Don't forget that Mrs. J. Mason is selling trimmed and untrimmed hats at from 25c up.

New and second hand sewing machines for sale at the Blackledge Furniture and Music Store.

The study of bookkeeping is very interesting when you are taught by the Voucher plan, the latest and best method of teaching bookkeeping.

FOR SALE.

Vetch seed at Corvallis Flour Mills

Ladies Wool Waists At Matchless Prices.

Our immense stock of Holiday Goods has arrived. We are greatly crowded for space to display them and must have more room. So to accomplish this, we have decided to place on sale our entire line of Ladies' Wool Waists and close them out at prices never before quoted in Corvallis.



- \$1.25 Ladies' wool waists... Reduced to \$.85
- 1.50 Ladies' wool waists... Reduced to 1.12
- 2.00 Ladies' wool waists... Reduced to 1.45
- 2.50 Ladies' wool waists... Reduced to 1.98
- 3.00 Ladies' wool waists... Reduced to 2.25
- 3.50 Ladies' wool waists... Reduced to 2.75

These pretty, new waists are made of all-wool flannel, in black, white, navy blue, and red. Our assortment is large and prices always the lowest, at

S. L. KLINE'S

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Is to try the New Goods which have just arrived at

HODES' GROCERY.

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- Crystallized Cherries
- Crystallized Ginger
- Fresh Nabiscos
- Fresh Cookies
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- New Almonds

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- New Honey
- New Figs and Dates
- Olives in Bulk
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The Fall and Winter suits and Overcoats of the famous

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are of the character which most of the men, who are particular about their clothes, imagine are to be had from only the high-price tailors.

Cry on a Kuppenheimer Suit.

Then ask your tailor anywhere to give you as nobly a pattern, trim it as well, ask his price, and then come back. We will do the rest.

F. L. Miller, = Corvallis.